

Bush, Major agree terms for Bosnia action

WASHINGTON (R) — President George Bush and British Prime Minister John Major said Sunday they would cooperate on a United Nations Security Council resolution to authorise enforcement of a "no-fly zone" over Bosnia. Mr. Bush and Major made the announcement after flying back to the White House after talks at the Camp David presidential retreat. They gave no details of how the air-exclusion zone, in place since November, might be enforced and stressed that they had not discussed setting any deadline beyond which Serbian aircraft might be shot down by Western forces. "The aim will be to make sure we enforce the resolution previously agreed," Mr. Major told reporters. He and Mr. Bush, however, were extremely cautious about fleshing out what the United Nations resolution might say. "We spelled out some objectives for our policy," Mr. Bush said, adding, "there's nothing particularly new in it." Both men emphasised the importance of maintaining humanitarian aid supplies into Bosnia over the winter and stressed that they did not want to see United Nations-mandated troops there on aid duty dragged in battle.

See related story on page 81.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية مستقلة سياسية وإخبارية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

Yemen confirms helping Somalia operation

SANAA (AP) — Prime Minister Haider Al Attas confirmed publicly Sunday that his country was extending facilities to U.S. forces in Operation Restore Hope, stressing that this was in line with the U.N. Security Council Resolution for assistance to famine-ravaged Somalia. "The aim of providing these facilities is to serve the transit of food provisions and the peace forces to help the brethren in Somalia obtain the foodstuffs and to have peace and stability restored to them," Mr. Attas said at a news conference. The republic of Yemen, he said, was also considering sending a Yemeni force to participate in the U.N. operation. Aiding U.S. forces could help Yemen regain badly needed aid. The operation in Somalia also could help staunch the flow of Somali refugees to Yemen and hold hope for the eventual return of some 60,000 Somalis to whom it has already given shelter. The famine-stricken and war-ravaged Somalia lies across the Gulf of Aden from Yemen. On Friday, Aden's leading daily, Al Ayam, reported that U.S. military personnel were in Aden to check out its large but rundown seaport and its airport for use by U.S. forces.

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Jordan honours toplympic official

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Regent, Sunday received at Royal Court Chairman of the Jordanian Olympic Committee, Mario Rana, who is also president of the American Sports Association. Discussions touched on future of sports in Jordan and the world at large. Prince Hassan briefed Mr. Rana on Jordan's position towards the Middle East peace process as well as on international issues. A Crown Prince suggested signing an Arab-Mexican dialogue in the future. Prince Hassan decorated the guest with Jordan's Independence Medal of the 1st Order on behalf of His Majesty King Hussein. The audience was attended by Youth Minister Saleh Al-Fawwaz, secretary of the Jordan Olympic Committee (See earlier story on p. 3).

Salati returns home

AMMAN (J.T.) — Abdul Salam Salati, head of the Jordanian peace talks with Israel, returned home Sunday after the conclusion of bilateral negotiations in Washington.

Indian minister expected in Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — Canadian Minister Barbara Macdonald is due here in January on a day visit to Jordan. The Indian minister, who will be a tour of the region, is expected to hold talks with Jordanian officials on bilateral affairs and on promoting relations between Jordan and India. The situation in the Middle East will also be on the agenda.

Meet June 11 for presidential polls

OSIA (AP) — Iran's Council of Guardians Sunday confirmed next year's presidential election would be held June 11, Iran Radio reported. President Hashemi Rafsanjani is expected to run for another four-year term. But there is no indication about other contenders for the job. The election had been proposed by Iran's Minister Abdullah Nouri was confirmed by the council which reviews the government's decisions for conformity with Islamic tenets.

Belgian minister to discuss EC role

JESSELS (R) — Belgian Foreign Minister Willy Claes will discuss the European Community's role in the Middle East on Sunday during a one-week visit to Israel and Egypt starting today, officials said Sunday. Claes and the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) met Sunday. Mr. Claes met Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak during his visit to prepare for Belgium's presidency of the EC next July.

Many denies treating Hamadis

TEL AVIV (AP) — Two Lebanese men in prison are receiving medical treatment with conditions as other inmates, the justice ministry of Israel said Sunday. A statement, issued in response to claims in London that Abbas Hamadi and his brother Ahmad were being tortured, said that the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Lebanese government were welcome to inspect the prison conditions.

Israel maintains its defiance; Palestinians continue protest action

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israel's cabinet Sunday closed ranks against world-wide condemnation and reaffirmed its decision to expel 415 Palestinians from the occupied territories.

Palestinians staged a protest strike for a third day in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, and troops patrolling the occupied territories were on alert following bloody weekend protests.

Meanwhile, Israel's supreme court heard an appeal by civil rights lawyers who demanded the return of the Palestinians expelled Thursday to Lebanon. After hearing four hours of testimony, the court announced it would rule Monday.

Pictures of the expelled Palestinians stuck in a makeshift tent camp in southern Lebanon dominated the front pages of Israel's newspapers Sunday. At the appeal hearing, Israeli attorney Avigdor Feldman argued that "responsibility for their safety will continue to be Israel's obligation." Government lawyer Nili Arad countered that the men were safe in Lebanon.

"Although no one says this is the ideal place for them to be... today we stand in a situation where there is no claim that their lives are in danger," she told the court. The high court last Thursday approved the cabinet's decision to

expel the men to Lebanon, but it has ordered the government to prove the legality of its action within 30 days. Some Israeli newspaper commentators sharply criticised Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, saying he misjudged the consequences, which have included a unanimous motion of condemnation from the U.N. Security Council and criticism from the European Community, the United States and Arab countries.

"You can be for expulsions or against them, but it's certain that the entire process was messed up and has landed on us like a boomerang," wrote Yoel Marcus in the Haaretz daily.

Nevertheless, cabinet ministers Sunday reaffirmed their support for the expulsions, which were ordered after six Israeli troops were slain by Muslim fundamentalists over a 10-day period.

Outside the session, dozens of Peace Now activists stood silently with placards denouncing the expulsions and calling for direct negotiations with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Industry Minister Micha Harish said after the meeting that the government had no alternative.

"We had to cut off Hamas' ability to harm the citizens of the state of Israel and the Palestinians who support the peace process," he said.

He argued that the move had weakened Hamas and could strengthen those Palestinians supporting the peace process, including the PLO's Fatah faction.

But Hamas and the rival Fatah published a rare joint leaflet Sunday, calling for coordination of their actions and a "comprehensive escalation" of protests in the occupied territories.

The Gaza Strip remained under a blanket curfew for a 13th day. Troops were on alert after six Palestinians were shot and killed by army gunfire during protests in Gaza Saturday when the curfew was briefly lifted.

In an interview published Sunday, Mr. Rabin acknowledged he may have misjudged the situation. "The result was less positive than we thought," Mr. Rabin told the Yedioth Ahronoth daily.

However, Mr. Rabin said he was confident the Middle East peace talks would continue despite Arab protests against the expulsions.

The U.S.-backed talks with Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and the Palestinians have recessed until after President-elect Bill Clinton's inauguration on Jan. 20.

"Even if the Palestinians don't come to the talks, the Arab states will continue the process with us," Mr. Rabin told Yedioth.

Mr. Rabin also warned Lebanon Sunday it would be a "major mistake" to try to force back the 415 Palestinians.

But Lebanon's Prime Minister Rafik Al Hariri refused to accept the deportees, saying his country was not a dumping ground for Israel's problems.

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Expelled Palestinians, enraged by killings, vow to stay put

MARJ AL ZAHOUR, Lebanon (Agencies) — Palestinians expelled from the occupied territories by Israel vowed Sunday to stay put in the snow and rain of a South Lebanon until they were allowed to return home.

Enraged by the killing of seven Palestinians, including a nine-year-old girl in the Gaza Strip, by Israeli troops, the 415 Palestinians said they would to the United Nations to force the Jewish state to let them return to the occupied territories.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin warned Lebanon Sunday not to try to force back the Palestinians.

"I believe that it will be a mistake on the part of them or the Lebanese government to try to push them back into our area. It will be a major mistake," Mr. Rabin told reporters.

Mr. Rabin said the Palestinians were now the responsibility of the Beirut government which has refused to allow them in.

The Palestinians are living in tents on a freezing, barren terrain in an area separating Lebanese

and Israeli army checkpoints at the edge of Israel's self-styled "security zone" in South Lebanon.

On Sunday, they put down rocks in the mud as stepping-stones. They also marked off a roadway paved with small stones — called "Jerusalem Street" — and dug ditches to drain water from the campground on a snow-covered hillside in preparation for renewed rain and snow.

They set up various committees to handle the camp's affairs, and divided the shelters they received from the International Committee of the Red Cross and the United Nations into 40 accommodation tents, another 13 for storage, a clinic and a press centre.

After a third freezing night on the wind-swept, rocky hillside beneath snow-covered mountains, the Palestinians said 150 were sick with diarrhoea and cold despite having doctors and medicine.

Lebanese troops barred them from entering government-held territory after they were dumped

across the Israeli border before dawn Friday. It was Israel's biggest expulsion of Palestinians in peacetime.

The situation is increasingly difficult, said Dr. Aziz Dwaik from the Israeli-occupied West Bank. The forecast is snow and rain. It would make our situation unbearably miserable.

The Palestinians heard the weather forecast on Israel Radio. Sporadic bursts of machine-gun fire from Israel's "security zone" — six kilometres to the south — echoed through their temporary tent camp.

"We live in a state of anger after the news of our children being killed in our homeland. But we also have hope after the U.N. resolution and decision to send a U.N. envoy," Mr. Dwaik said.

"We insist we must return home. We will stay here until we are allowed to return," added the lecturer at Al Najah University in Nabulus.

"We are optimistic but one

(Continued on page 5)

Marines, Belgians take control of key southern Somalia port

KISMAYU (Agencies) — U.S. Marines and Belgian paratroopers poured ashore in broad daylight Sunday and, to the cheers of thousands of Somalis, took control of this strategic southern city's port and airport.

The seizure of Kismayu reopened an important gateway for the shipment of food to the starving in the country, a gateway that had been all but closed for weeks by clan fighting and looting.

With Cobra helicopter gunships whirling overhead and under the cover of F18 Hornets and A6 intruder jet fighters, the first 100 Marines came splashing onto the beach in amphibious assault vehicles at 6:30 a.m. (0330 GMT).

They were followed minutes later by 90 Belgian troops in U.S. navy hovercrafts and transport helicopters that dropped some men on the port's broad, concrete dock.

"Everything went well; not a shot was fired," said Colonel Fred Peck, a Marine spokesman. In Mogadishu, U.S. Marines shot and wounded a young Somali on a "technical" gunwagon when he aimed a machine gun at them Sunday.

Col. Peck said the shooting happened outside Mogadishu's

bombardment parliament seconds after the Marines were twice fired on from the building. The troops returned two shots, he said.

The technical that appeared, saw the patrol and as it beat a retreat the gunner swung the mounted machine-gun round and took aim. "They (the Marines) just knew they hit him and he went down," Col. Peck said.

As the Belgians secured Kismayu port, the Marines pushed on into the city in their armoured vehicles and raced for the derelict airport six kilometres to the south.

Somalis on the streets and on rooftops cheered and waved as the Marines sped by. Forewarned of their coming, many residents had painted signs saying "Welcome American soldiers."

Two hours and 20 minutes after the landing, the airport was declared secure. A U.S. government plane touched down less than an hour later, followed by two relief flights of the International Red Cross.

United Nations and private aid agencies had pleaded with the U.S.-led military coalition to secure Kismayu, about 400 kilometres southwest of Mogadishu on the Indian Ocean coast.

Their work had been crippled by the lawlessness and fighting

among clan factions that closed the port for months and reduced the flow of aid to a trickle delivered by cargo planes from neighbouring Kenya.

Similar conditions and entreaties from aid workers led American military commanders to send a combined force of Marines and French Foreign Legionnaires into the central town of Baidoa last Wednesday.

A U.N. source, who spoke only on condition of anonymity, said military briefers told a regular weekly meeting of aid officials Sunday that the towns of Hoddur and Gallaassi would be the next goals.

Lieutenant-Colonel Marc Jacomin, the Belgian commander in overall charge at Kismayu, met shortly after the landing with local warlord Colonel Omar Jess to advise him of his plans.

"Everybody was cooperative," Col. Lebourg said. "Jess was very nice, cordial. He welcomed us here."

Col. Jess' militia has been heavily involved in the factional fighting in Kismayu.

U.S. special envoy Robert Oakley met with Col. Jess, clan elders and other community leaders on Saturday, duplicating a

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Palestinian boys throw stones at Israeli soldiers in the occupied Gaza Strip (AFP photo)

House delays debate on press, passes landmark security law

Signs emerge of second thoughts on media

By Ayman Al Safadi
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Feeling the negative political repercussions of its endorsement of what is generally perceived as an oppressive press and publications law, the Lower House of Parliament Sunday decided to give its members more time to study the proposed legislation.

The House passed a landmark amendment to the draft state security law to allow the right of appeal against sentences passed by the State Security Court.

Under the amendment adopted by the House, convicts of the State Security Court could appeal the verdict at the Court of Appeals in 30 days from the date of the ruling. In addition, it also makes it obligatory on the part of the State Security Court to refer all sentences involving the death penalty or over 10 years in jail.

The right of appeal had been one of the key demands local political activists as well as Arab and international human rights organisations as an essential component of a judiciary system which ensures fair trial.

Towards the end of a three-hour session, the House put off

until Wednesday debate of the controversial press and publications draft law after listening to arguments that the law conflicts with the pluralistic political environment that the country is trying to establish.

Arguments for reversing some article of the law, especially Article 42 that makes taboo of covering a range of political, social and economic issues, came from Islamists as well as communists members of the House.

Islamist Deputy Abdul Baqi Ghamo said the draft law does not reflect the pluralistic orientation of the country, while communist Deputy Issa Mdanat reported a "troubled conscience" for having voted in favour of some of the articles included in the draft legislation.

Independent Islamist Ali Al Faqr charged that deputies moving a new vote on already approved articles were succumbing to pressure from critical articles that have recently appeared in the press, while the former president of the Law Committee, Hussein Mujali, argued that there was nothing wrong with considering the views of people concerned with the proposed legislation.

While the House did not vote on a motion to amend some of the already-adopted articles of the law, sources inside the House said there was a wide support for the proposal.

One deputy told the Jordan Times the House might vote in favour of sending some controversial articles of the law to the Law Committee after finishing debate of the remaining articles and voting on the law in its entirety.

The House has already approved 51 articles of the 59-article law. The Law Committee has proposed the deletion of Article 52, which prescribes legal punishments against violators of the provision of the draft law. The article is the only controversial provision in the remaining eight articles.

Meanwhile, the House approved the draft state security law as amended by the Law Committee. The draft law was vetoed by His Majesty King Hussein and returned to the House during its third ordinary session last year.

The House then voted on the draft law in a joint session with the Upper House of Parliament

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Bahrainis get majlis

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — The emir of Bahrain Sunday introduced a measure of democracy by creating a 30-man consultative council whose members he will appoint.

The council, called Majlis Al Shura, will provide "consultation and advice" on draft laws prepared by the cabinet before they are submitted to the ruler, said a government decree.

It will not be empowered to pass legislation, but will have the right to propose legislation to the cabinet of the country of half a million people ruled by Emir Sheikh Isa Bin Salman Al Khalifa.

The members, still to be named, will be chosen from among those of "good standing and worthwhile views," said the decree distributed by the official Gulf News Agency (GNA).

The council will convene within a month of publication of the names of its members in the official gazette. Members will serve a four-year, renewable term.

There were no provisions in the decree for the council to be able to block draft laws. But it said 10 or more of the 30 members would be entitled to submit their own proposals to the cabinet.

The decree said the council, which could also be dismissed by the emir, would ordinarily meet in annual sessions — from the beginning of October to the end of December and the beginning of March until the end of May.

Extraordinary sessions could be called if the emir deemed it necessary.

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Saudi-Qatari accord clears way for summit

ABU DHABI (Agencies) — Saudi Arabia and Qatar signed a border settlement Sunday that should clear the way for Qatari participation in a Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) regional alliance.

The official Qatari News Agency (QNA), said the deal was signed in the Holy City Medina in the presence of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak who spent four days in hectic mediation to save the GCC.

Details of the deal have yet to be announced but it should end Qatar's boycott of the GCC which was prompted by a border clash with Saudi Arabia on Sept. 30 in which three people died.

The Qatari agency said the agreement was signed by the foreign ministers of the three countries: Sheikh Mohammad Bin Jasim Al Thani of Qatar, Prince Saud Al Faisal of Saudi Arabia and Amr Musa of Egypt.

It said the signing took place in the presence of the three leaders at the Saudi palace where the Egyptian president has been staying.

Handshakes and hugs were exchanged as the delegations congratulated each other on the agreement, "which affirms the depth of the links of love and brotherhood among the brothers," the agency reported.

The agreement also "bolsters the Qatari-Saudi bilateral ties which have always been special and firm in the interest of the two countries and sister nations," it added.

Qatar had insisted that the border post central to the Sept. 30 clash was in Qatari territory while Saudi Arabia said it was on the Kingdom's territory. The Saudis said it was a shootout

between bedouins, but the Qataris insisted the post had been attacked by the Saudis.

As a result of the clash, Qatar suspended a British-brokered 1965 pact on the borders between the two countries, a move that was rejected by Saudi Arabia.

Egypt's Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported Friday from Medina that it learned Saudi Arabia agreed to establishing a tripartite committee, comprising Egypt, Qatar and Saudi Arabia, to help implement the 1965 agreement.

Egyptian sources close to the mediation said Mr. Mubarak clinched the deal after six hours of shuttling between Saudi King Fahd and the emir of Qatar, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani.

The sources said Mr. Mubarak had left Medina for home after an unusually lengthy absence. Sheikh Khalifa was also expected to head home before flying to Abu Dhabi Monday for the annual summit of the GCC alliance set up 11 years ago to ensure the region's peace and stability.

Cairo has made clear that the aim of the mediation is to prevent the row from helping non-Arab Iran to gain a foothold on the Arab side of the Gulf. An Egyptian source said earlier a deal would be "a slap in the face for Iran."

Mr. Mubarak, who faces a serious Islamic fundamentalist threat at home is worried that the split among Gulf Arabs could also strengthen the fundamentalist rulers of neighbouring Iran.

Summit unlikely to solve disputes, page 2

Hamas to attend PLO talks

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) said Saturday it had accepted an invitation from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to attend a meeting in Tunis to heal inter-Palestinian differences and coordinate action against Israel.

The PLO was meeting Sunday at its headquarters in Tunis to discuss Israel's expulsion of 415 Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

A senior Hamas official said in Jordan the group had received an official invitation and had accepted it.

Ibrahim Ghosheh, spokesman for Hamas in Amman, said: "We welcome the call by the PLO and we have repeatedly said that it is time for all the diverse Palestinian factions to unite ranks against the conspiracies of the Zionist enemy."

Another Hamas official denied suggestions from a PLO spokesman in Tunis that the group, a rival to the PLO for the loyalty of Palestinians in the occupied territories, was boycotting the meeting.

"We sent a written letter confirming that we will be in Tunis to participate in the meetings not later than Wednesday," Mohamed Nazzal said, adding that the delay was due to travel arrangements.

Mr. Nazzal told Reuters Hamas was sending a high-level delegation which would include the Damascus-based head of the movement's political bureau, its Tehran representative, himself and another Jordanian member.

PLO Executive Committee member Yasser Abed Rabbo told Reuters in Tunis earlier that the PLO had formally invited Hamas to the meeting after a spokesman in Amman said they would attend if an invitation were sent.

"We sent them an invitation, but on Saturday night, they responded. They apologised. They are not coming," he told Reuters, adding: "They didn't say why."

Hamas, a driving force behind the five-year-old revolt against Israeli rule in the occupied territories, cancelled at the last minute a reconciliation meeting with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat scheduled for Khartoum last month.

Along with PLO headline factions, it opposes the PLO strategy of conducting peace talks with Israel.

The PLO leadership began its emergency meeting with the participation of members of the Palestinian negotiating team in the Washington peace talks.

The PLO had urged its hard-line factions and Hamas to attend the meeting to show Palestinian unity following the Israeli expulsion of 415 activists to Lebanon.

The expulsions and the killing of seven Palestinians in the occupied lands prompted an appeal by Hamas and the PLO-backed Unified National Leadership of the Uprising for international community to put Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on trial.

"An agreement was reached between the Unified National Leadership of the Uprising (UNLU) and Hamas to unify the means of struggle against Israeli oppression," the joint statement said.

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Qadhafi says Maghreb doomed, needs water

NICOSIA (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has said North Africa was doomed and its people must eventually move on to greener pastures in other Arab countries or at least acquire water from their neighbours.

He told students from the desert towns of Hun and Al Jafrah that the region was "an island of salt stranded between the sea and the desert."

Life had been possible in the region once, when there were fewer people with lower expectations, he said.

But, he added, "The North African region has no future and is threatened with a disaster due to the decline of water and the increase in population."

The official Libyan news agency IANA carried his remarks in a report Saturday.

"We have to review our presence in this site, benefiting from the resources of the large Arab homeland," he added.

Colonel Qadhafi gave no clear indication where North Africans might go but he said: "The Arab Homeland... is for all of us and freedom of movement, residence, property and employment should be guaranteed to all Arab citizens."

"The Arab Homeland is the home of all of us. We are all the sons of one family... the Libyans have to benefit from the resources of the Arab Homeland and its waters," he added.

The Libyan leader mentioned Chad — where his country has a long record of armed intervention — as a possible source of water.

"Libyan oil is the property of

all Libyans and Chadians and therefore the waters of Chad are also the waters of the Libyan people," he said.

He also cited agreements with Egypt and Sudan on free movement and residence as models to be emulated.

Libya is the most arid of countries on the north coast of Africa and has the smallest population — about four million. But oil has made it one of the wealthiest states on the continent for the past two decades.

Col. Qadhafi, with his eye on the day when oil runs out, is investing billions of dollars in pipelines — known collectively as the Great Man-Made River — to bring underground water from desert oases to irrigate coastal farming land.

At current rates of production

Libyan oil will last more than 40 years.

Some specialists say the desert aquifers might stop producing water within a generation of oil drying up.

Col. Qadhafi gave no timetable for his doomsday prediction but JANA said: "He wondered about life 50 years from now in this area after the population increased and the water declined."

"Oil (and other finite resources) are a phase, like youth, which has to be benefited from because it is an energy, bound by time, which will not last forever. The lasting wealth that can be relied upon is water," he added.

Col. Qadhafi upset neighbouring Tunisia in September by saying that water shortages would eventually force the country to merge with either Libya or Alger-



Muammar Qadhafi

ia, its much larger neighbours.

In Roman times the rain-fed plains of the North African coast were a major source of grain for the empire. Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia, can still produce large harvests in years when the rains are good.

GCC summit unlikely to resolve disputes

ABU DHABI (AP) — Leaders of the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states meet Monday for their annual summit amid unprecedented strains in the 11-year-old alliance and little sign that they will be able to restore its waning credibility.

The GCC, which comprises Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Kuwait, Oman, Bahrain and Qatar, is riven by territorial disputes. Some have flared into border clashes.

There are also differences over what to do about Iraq. The Gulf states fear Iraqi President Saddam Hussein defiantly holding onto power and would like to see him toppled.

But they have nightmares about Iraq, long the buttress against Iran, disintegrating if he does fall, plunging the region into another spasm of turmoil that could engulf them.

They want Iraq to remain strong enough to act as a counterweight to a resurgent Iran, rearming on a large scale and reverting to its old Islamic militancy.

The Gulf states are also engaged in building up their military capabilities on a massive scale. Weapons worth \$40 million — five times the Iranian programme — have been ordered since last year's Gulf war.

But despite this they remain incapable of defending themselves. They have been unable to stitch together a coherent regional security structure and remain reliant on Western protection.

The GCC formed in 1981, while the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war raged, as a defence and economic alliance that would bind the oil-rich Gulf states together at a time when they were under threat.

But, despite repeated affirmations of unity, they have never been able to weld themselves into an integrated, cohesive bloc. Before the kings, emirs and sheikhs gathered in Abu Dhabi, government officials throughout the Gulf stressed that the GCC was in good shape and that all differences would be resolved.

The GCC's assistant secretary general for political affairs, Seif Al Miskin, said last week: "The summit will remove all obstacles hindering the GCC."

"And the top priority of the GCC states is the security in its aspects, including the military, economic and political spheres," he said.

Official says Sudan under economic siege like Libya

KHARTOUM (AP) — A senior official said Sunday that Sudan suffers from an international economic embargo just like Libya and called for economic cooperation between the two countries to stand up to the boycott.

Major General Tigran Adam Al Tahir said that the two neighbouring countries could help each other by exporting Sudanese agricultural and animal resources to Libya, which is mostly desert, and importing Libyan oil to Sudan.

Gen. Tahir, whose comments appeared in Sudan's newspapers Sunday, did not say how Sudan's economic embargo was similar to Libya's. On April 15, the United Nations imposed air travel, diplomatic representation and arms sales sanctions on Libya to force it to hand over to the United States or Britain two suspects in the 1988 bombing of a plane

which killed 270 people.

Sudan is under no such embargo. However, since Lieutenant-General Omar Hassan Al Bashir took over in a military coup June 30, 1989, relations between Sudan and the United States and

other Western and Arab states have been strained because of its alleged violation of human rights and its support of Iraq during the Gulf war.

Most countries have cut all economic aid to Sudan, Africa's largest state and one of the world's poorest. They continue to provide humanitarian aid for famine sufferers and victims of the civil war in the south.

Gen. Tahir said the passage of goods and people through the Sudanese-Libyan borders should be simplified as decreed by the integration agreement they signed shortly after Gen. Bashir came to power.

Ruling party wins Djibouti polls

DJIBOUTI (R) — The ruling party of President Hassan Gouled Aptidon swept to victory in Djibouti's first multi-party election, officials said.

Results of Friday's parliamentary election in the small Red Sea state showed the People's Rally for Progress (RPP) won nearly 75 per cent of the vote.

The single opposition group contesting the poll, the Party of Democratic Revival (PRD), won just over 25 per cent.

The ruling party won in all five districts. The electoral system in the former French colony means the RPP will take all 65 seats in the national assembly.

The polls were held against a backdrop of a simmering year-old conflict with rebels in the north and a boycott by a leading opposition party. Turnout was low.

Interior Ministry officials said just 49 per cent of the 151,000 people eligible to do so cast their vote in elections held three months after political opposition was legalised.

In one southern district, Ali

Sabieh, the turn-out was 38 per cent.

Political analysts said one reason for the poor turn-out was lack of interest in the two competing parties. The democratic National Party (PND) pulled out this month complaining over the way the poll was being organised.

In the government-controlled northern towns of Tadjourah and Obock, all the candidates were from the ruling party.

The Afar tribe-led rebels, the Front for the Restoration of Unity and Democracy (FRUD), took no part in the elections.

The FRUD has fought for more democracy and a greater share of power for the Afars since December last year, although a shaky ceasefire has been in force for 10 months.

The legalisation of political opposition met a key rebel demand. But the group, which controls some rural areas of the north, refused to disarm to form a political party.

French-mediated plans for peace talks last month fell apart. The government says the FRUD is still holding some 31 military prisoners. Their release was a condition for talks.

Friday's voting was peaceful but several hundred people staged a demonstration against the elections.

Meles will cooperate with Eritrea

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Ethiopian President Meles Zenawi has said his country and Eritrea would stay close even if the Red Sea territory voted for independence in a referendum scheduled for next April.

"Ethiopia and Eritrea will continue to need each other. Both countries will find it difficult to survive and progress without each other's cooperation," Mr. Meles told a news conference.

"Ethiopia will not take measures like the one that precipitated the human tragedy when Pakistan was separated from India," Mr. Meles said, referring to the flood of Hindus and Muslims who fled their homes during the 1947 partition.

There have been fears some Ethiopians would want to chase out Eritreans if, as is likely, Eritrea votes for independence.

Mr. Meles said Ethiopia and Eritrea were too mutually dependent to risk alienation from each other.

"The only group of people who can have an interest in such an exercise are those who wish the transitional programme and government end in turmoil and bloodshed," he said.

Algeria suspends paper acts against journalist

ALGIERS (R) — The Algerian government has suspended an evening newspaper, accusing it of "tending to give voice to those acting for the destabilisation of the country."

Al Djazair Al Youm (Algeria Today) had also published articles "aiming to discredit the symbols of the state," the communications ministry said in a statement Saturday.

It added it had also taken unspecified "individual measures" against two radio journalists.

Journalists need accreditation from the authorities to enable them to work and their cards can be withdrawn.

The ministry accused one journalist of being the author of a false item of news, spreading rumour and disinformation, which had been communicated to a foreign news agency. The other worked under contract at a consular service, it said, without giving details.

Algeria's leaders, battling Muslim fundamentalists, have suspended several newspapers for perceived support of extremists or undermining the state.

Al Djazair Al Youm was suspended with three other dailies last August but all four were allowed to resume publication in October. Later that month two more journals were suppressed in

one week for apparent fundamentalist sympathies. Suspending Al-Dja Youm for the second time ministry called on the take more heed of the emergency imposed last year and respect its terms.

Algeria's leaders say a commitment to democracy at war with extremists killed more than 200 after the security forces in the months.

Militant shot dead

Security forces killed suspected Muslim guerrilla at 'Ain Defla, 115 km south of the capital, radio said.

Citing sources in the military gendarmerie, it said the dead man was in the line of involvement in the action of a village by six men Wednesday.

The killers also killed a villager, the radio said. Some 27 suspected militants have been killed by authorities imposed a few on the capital, and rounding departments in 'Ain Defla on Dec. 5.

The curfew was imposed to crush fundamentalists linked to the Islamic Front (FIS).

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Turkey's old rightist party joins Demirel group

ISTANBUL (R) — Turkey's former right-wing Justice Party, reemerging after a 12-year ban, voted Saturday to join Minister Suleyman Demirel's True Path Party (DYP) and resume independent activity. Anatolia news agency reports majority of 909 delegates voted at a congress against rejoining the party, paving the way to join Mr. Demirel's centre-right. All the assets of the AP will now be transferred to DYP. Demirel headed AP for 17 years and led it to 10 general election victories before it was banned after a 1980 military coup. Demirel formed his present government in November 1991. The Social Democrat Populist Party (SHP) of Erol Ilhan passed a law in July paving the way for the return of parties banned after 1960 and 1980 coups.

Japan grants Yemen \$10 million

SANAA (R) — Japan has granted Yemen \$8.3 million to buy maintenance workshop for road construction machines and million to ease the burden of debt repayments in the second year. Sanaa Television said the grant agreement was signed Saturday but gave no further details on the debt.

Indian firm builds lubricants recycling

DUBAI (R) — An Indian company is building a \$2.5 million refining plant in Dubai's Jabal Ali free zone area to recycle lubricating oils — only the second such plant in the Gulf. Gadgil, chairman of Western Oil Company, said Sunday that on the plant started in October and it expected to start producing 15,000 tonnes by June 1993. It would double its production in two years. The plant is being built and financed by the based Western Indian Group of Industries which set up Dubai-based Western Oil Company for the project.



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Notice issued by Execution Officer, Amman for: The convicted: Deloitte Haskins and Sells, whose place of residence is not known. You should call at the Execution Office, Amman within one month as of the date of publishing this notice in order for us to implement the text of judgement No. 1175/91 of Nov. 11, 1991, passed by Amman Court of Appeal, which obliges you to pay JD 10,858, in addition to any other charges and fees due, to Ghada Sami Khalil Al Najjar, whose favour judgement has been given. If you do not present yourself to the office within the specified period, you will be considered as abstaining from implementing the judgement by your own volition, and the Execution Office of Amman will take the necessary legal steps against you.

Execution Officer, Amman

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JORDAN TELEVISION
Tel. 77111-19

PROGRAMME TWO
18:00 Pil or Hercules
18:00 Pope Paul
19:00 News in French
19:15 Magazine Sportif
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Step by Step
21:10 A Face Remains
22:00 News in English
22:20 The Dismissal

PRAYER TIMES

05:04 Fajr
06:35 (Sunrise) Dhuha
11:35 Dhuhr
14:17 'Asr
16:40 Maghrib
18:03 'Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swetish, Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terra Sancta Church Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541
Anglican Church Tel. 652926. Tel. 620543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Amman International Church Tel. 603326
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 63824, 654932
Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675691

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be rainy, especially in the southern parts and winds will be westerly moderate to fresh. In Aqaba it will be rainy and winds will be southerly moderate and seas mild.

	Min./Max.	Temp.
Amman		3/10
Aqaba		9/17
Deserts		2/13
Jordan Valley		11/18

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Salah Al A'soud 649028
Dr. Moukhlis Halasah 819220
Dr. Fakir Bilal 663412
Dr. Abasa Al Hakim 855881
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asema pharmacy 637836
Al Salam pharmacy 623672
Yacoub pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shamsi pharmacy 637661
Nairouh pharmacy 623672
Najih pharmacy 847632

IRBID:
Dr. Abdul Majid Mousa 275393
Alquds pharmacy (-)

ZARQA:
Dr. Rabe Atalah 984424
Khalifah pharmacy 965417

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111
Civil Defence Department 641111
Civil Defence Immediate Rescue 63041
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police [92, 62111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891226
Blood Bank 75121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896301
Public Security Department 63023
Hotel Complaints 659003
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467

Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality 767111
Complaints 767111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone Repairs 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 774111
Radio Jordan 774111

HOSPITALS

Water Authority 68111P
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power Company 636381
RJ Flight Information 18-533011
Queen Alia Int. Airport 18-53320

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/322
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn 6428116
Al-Fatih Maternity, J. Amn 6424112
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malhas, J. Amman 636181
Palestine, Shamsani 661714
Shmouk Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Muashar Hospital 6672779
The Islamic, Abdali 66612737
Al-Ahli, Abdali 6641666
Italian, Al-Mahajreen 7710103
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 7511126
Aimy, Marka 89161115
Queen Alla Hospital 61224951
Amal Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital 091983323

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:15 Riyadh (RJ)
09:15 Cairo, Aqaba (RJ)
09:20 Damascus (RJ)
09:45 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:00 New Delhi (RJ)
10:15 Beirut (RJ)
16:45 Cairo (RJ)
17:00 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
18:30 Bangkok (RJ)
19:10 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
22:20 London (RJ)

MARKET PRICES

Uppertower price in file per 100 lbs

Apple	200
Banana	200
Banana (Mukammal)	640
Beetroot	350
Cabbage	200
Carrot	720
Cauliflower	300
Cucumbers (large)	600
Cucumbers (small)	240
Eggplant	240
Garlic	600
Grapefruit	250
Leemon	250
Marrow (dry)	500
Marrow (green)	280
Onion (dry)	200
Onion (green)	280
Orange	200
Pepper (hot)	180
Pepper (sweet)	250
Potato	200
Tomato	200
Sprach	200
Mint	200
Green Olive	200

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)533015, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

07:15 Samra (RJ)

Home News

Farming flood victims turn to King for help

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Farmers who claim their lands were flooded as a result of the opening of the King Talal Dam last winter say they are given up efforts to secure compensation for their losses and are appealing to His Majesty King Hussein for help.

We have knocked on every door and tried every means to solve our problems, which were created by the unwise opening of the dam to reduce the level of the reservoir," said Abdul Aziz Al Hourat, a farmer from the area on the banks of the River Zarqa in the Jordan Valley.

One farmland has completely been destroyed either because of the floods or deep cracks in the soil, which make it totally unsuitable for cultivation," said Mr. Hourat. "It was not our fault; it was a natural calamity."

The authorities opened the dam before the water levels went too high, the floods would not have occurred," he said. "No officials were available for compensation."

In Feb. 10, 1992, the authorities opened the King Talal Dam and the water levels reached 85 metres while the acceptable level is 65 metres. The water flowed into the Zarqa River, flooded the banks and destroyed up to 100 dunams of land owned by 30 families with a total of 400 members, including men and children.

Because they waited so long in opening the dam, the sure of the water was very high when they opened," said Hourat. "It was estimated up to 6,000 cubic metres flowing per minute for a time after they opened the dam."

By virtue of this, he argued, "the authorities have the direct responsibility for the destruction of our farmlands and our present predicament."

Despite the receding of the water, numerous fields have been turned into swampland unsuitable for cultivation. In addition, cultivated crops were destroyed and farming equipment — including pumps and tools — were completely lost. The average loss of a family, including a total write-off of the land, is estimated between JD 12,000 and JD 15,000.

Officials from various concerned departments visited the area dozens of times, but no progress has been made to reach a "realistic" solution to the problem.

The authorities offered the farmers "loans," which were rejected. "They were offering interest-free loans for five months," said Mr. Hourat, "after this period interest would have been applicable. In any case, we could not accept the offer simply because there was no way we could cultivate the land and repay the loans."

Flood waters have left behind a one-kilometre by 176 metre lake with an average depth of 20 metres in the area and very little was done to drain it during this summer.

Official geological experts blame the "structure" of the land for the collapse, but, according to Mr. Hourat, "these lands have been cultivated for many years by our fathers and grandfathers and floods have occurred dozens of times but there was no collapse of the land."

Furthermore, he said, farmers in the area have been taking loans with their land as collateral from some of the stringest organisations which are known to take no risk, some of them did not take such loans since they reject the concept of usury (interest), according to Mr. Hourat.

"If our land was as bad as they now describe it, how come we could get loans on them at par with any other farmland in Jordan and the prices of our land were higher than many areas elsewhere in the Jordan Valley?" asked Mr. Hourat.

An exchange of four dunams of land in the Ghor for one dunum of our land was considered a bad bargain for us," he said.

Another point raised by the farmer was that if indeed the land was "bad," why the authorities are now trying to electrify the area at government expense.

The farmers sought help from all quarters, including members of parliament from Balqa governorate. But, said Mr. Hourat, "no-one seems to take any interest in our problem."

The only deputy to pick up the cause of the farmers, he said, was Ahmad Oweidi Al Abbadi, an Amman representative. Obviously Dr. Abbadi's intervention was prompted by tribal considerations since almost all affected farmers are from the Abbadi tribe.

The proverbial straw was broken for the farmers when they were "advised" to leave the area. "We will not leave the area even if it meant our deaths," said Mr. Hourat. "We will stay on if only to invite public attention to our plight."

However, the farmers are hopeful that the issue would be brought to the attention of King Hussein and a fair solution to their problems would be reached.

"Only Abu Abdullah can solve our problems, and we are appealing to His Majesty to intervene and help us," he said.

Upper House, PNC and writers condemn Israeli deportation Senate speaks out

AMMAN (Petra) — The Upper House of Parliament Sunday issued a statement condemning Israel's deportation of 415 Palestinians from their homes in the occupied Arab lands to Lebanon. In a statement, the Senate argued that the act is another demonstration of Israel's violations of international law.

"Israel's expulsion of the Palestinians exposes the Jewish state's real face to the outside world no matter what cosmetic surgeries the Israeli government tries to make through its media and other information and propaganda organs," said the statement.

While noting that the expulsion of the Arab citizens is a violation of international laws and human rights principles, the statement said that it was a dangerous act which calls for a firm and decisive action on the part of the world community which should also see that Israel implement U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 concerning the Palestine issue and the Middle East problem.

Calling for pan-Arab and pan-Islamic support for the Palestinian people's struggle through their intifada, the Senate noted that any struggle in any form against occupation is a legitimate right of the oppressed population anywhere.

The statement said the current Israeli escalation of terrorist activities against the Palestinians should prompt the Arab states to transcend their differences and take a collective action in total solidarity with the Palestinians and in a manner that would ensure their lawful rights in their homeland.



Arab writers Sunday protest outside U.N. offices in Amman against Israel's expulsion of 415 Palestinians last week

Arab writers stage protest

AMMAN (J.T.) — Arab writers who took part in the Eighteenth Arab Writers Conference Sunday staged a sit-in front of the United Nations offices in Shmeisani to protest against the deportation by the Israeli authorities of 415 Palestinians. Arab Writers Union Secretary General Fakhri Kassar delivered to United Nations representative in Jordan Othman Hashem a statement of protest which he asked be passed on to U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali.

taken by Israel against the Palestinian people are based on the outdated emergency laws of the 1945, which were applied during the British mandate on Palestine.

These measures, the statement said, contravene with human rights the Fourth Geneva Convention and U.N. resolutions. It further said that the deportation comes to refute false Israeli allegations that the Jewish state was willing to establish peace in the region, and uncovers its genuine policies.

The statement called on the U.N. go beyond mere verbal condemnation of the Israeli actions.

Sheikh Sayeh praises King's stand on deportees

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Palestinian National Council (PNC) Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh Sunday praised His Majesty King Hussein's pan-Arab stand and welcomed his decision not to receive the 415 Palestinian deportees stuck in southern Lebanon.

Sheikh Sayeh said that the Jordanian decision reflects Jordan's interest in allowing the Palestinian people to exercise their legitimate right to live on their national soil. At a press conference held at the PNC premises in the presence of a committee in charge of following up on the deportees situation, Sheikh Sayeh said that the U.N. Security Council Resolution 799 which called for the return of the deportees, does not resolve U.N. from its responsibilities for nullifying the deportation decision. He called on the International Community to implement the resolution.

Sheikh Sayeh voiced appreciation for the Palestinian leadership's decision to discontinue talks with Israel until it responds to the U.N. Security Council and allows the return of the deportees. He also praised the Lebanese government's decision not to receive the deportees.

Secretary of a special committee on the deportees Abdul Aziz Al Haj Ahmad said the committee has called on the Security Council to take executive steps aimed at cancelling the deportation decision. Mr. Haj called on Arab countries involved in the peace talks with Israel to stop the peace talks until Israel respects its genuine policies.



Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh

the U.N. Security Council resolution.

In another development, presidents of professional associations in Jordan denounced the Israeli deportation of the Palestinians, describing it as an oppressive collective measure. In a statement issued Sunday, various associations expressed solidarity with the deportees and called all popular bodies and organisations in the Arab world and the world at large to move quickly to make Israel revoke its decision.

Education conference calls for progress

By Sa'eda Kilani

AMMAN — Illiteracy in the Arab world will reach 60 million by the year 2000, according to a report by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Education Director Abdul Kader Atrash.

Education is a fundamental right for all people, women, men, all ages and all over the world," said Mr. Atrash, on the opening of a four-day conference which began Sunday in Amman. The conference is being held by the Ministry of Education, UNESCO and other international experts in the field of education.

In his opening statement, Dr. Atrash said, "The Secretary-General of the Ministry of Education pointed to the need to exert efforts in the educational field to accomplish the universal goal of education for all by the year 2000."

Renewed efforts should be made to meet the basic needs of every education," he said. "Talent changes in the economic and political fields in society must be accommodated with changes in the educational policies."

Mr. Atrash said that the Third World should pay more attention to the educational sector.

"There is always the increasing danger of major problems such as rapid growth of population, economic recession, wars, and the death of thousands of children; problems which had already influenced badly the educational system in the eighties, in the Arab World in particular," he said.

Dr. Abdul Wahed Yousuf, an expert on primary education and illiteracy from UNESCO, insisted in his paper upon the need to review the current policies and methods used, and head for "an expanded vision" that would combine all necessary elements to secure the basic needs of education for all.

This expanded vision, according to Dr. Yousuf should provide the necessary facilities and access to education for all children and adults without discrimination. Care should be taken to ensure that primary educational programmes focus upon pragmatic learning rather than theory. More attention should be paid to the environment that surrounds the child, especially when parents show a lack of awareness, and all sectors of society should contribute to the process of education.

he said.

In a study carried out by the United Nations Education Bureau for Arab States (UN-EDBAS), UNESCO's regional bureau in 1989, results show that in spite of the efforts conducted by Arab states to combat illiteracy, there are major obstacles:

- Deficiency of finances, and trained cadres.
- Lack of enthusiasm towards education in rural areas, especially for girls.
- Lack of educational equipment and low number of school buildings.

— The use of traditional policies in the educational field.

— Teachers' lack of training.

In the conference, six working groups representing various ministries and universities in Jordan as well as international experts and organisations will discuss several papers which present an overall view on the defects of the current educational system and the possible means to come up with advanced policies that would make education for all a reality by 2000.

The working papers will focus mainly on: Early childhood stages, primary education, possible ways to improve education, illiteracy, and education for women and girls.

Crime is rising, says PSD

AMMAN (Petra) — Nineteen ninety-two witnessed an increase in the number of crimes committed in Jordan and the Public Security Department (PSD) is blaming the increase on socio-demographic and economic changes.

A total of 24,428 crimes of all kinds occurred in the first 10 months of this year compared with 24,113 in the same period of 1991, said Brigadier Nouredin Kheir, PSD assistant director Monday.

The PSD, however, expects a drop in the number of crimes in the coming year, Mr. Kheir said in a statement on the eve of Jordan's Arab Police day. The total number of "simple" crimes such as petty theft account for 41.4 per cent of the total crimes in the past 10 months while major robberies constitute 31.9 per cent. Premeditated murders 0.3 per cent, murder for moral motives 18.7 per cent and 13.7 per cent of the crimes were motivated by ancient disputes and feuds.

The PSD registered a total of 3,925 juvenile crimes compared to 3,062 cases in the first 10 months of 1991. These cases included thefts, murder and others, said Brig. Kheir.

The rise in the number of juvenile delinquency cases, he said, calls for a collective effort, particularly from educational institutions in Jordan to combat this trend.

The director of the PSD department for combating drugs, Brigadier Izzeddin Zaza said that Jordan witnessed a rise in the drug trafficking cases in the past year during which customs officers and the police seized 5,210 kilograms of hashish, 78 kilos of heroin and millions of capsules pills.

Brig. Zaza said also that since

the beginning of 1992 the PSD has seized large amounts of counterfeit currency including nearly 500,000 Iraqi dinars and 1.1 million U.S. dollars. Sixteen people of various nationalities have been arrested.

The brigadier emphasised that the PSD is taking firm measures at the borders and a number of areas frequented by the traffickers to stem smuggling.

The PSD pointed to the rising number of unemployed people, the return of expatriates in great numbers and other social factors which, it said, has encouraged young men to take drugs and turn to crime.

Referring to the situation in jails, Brig. Zaza said that the main Swaqa prison has seven vocational training centres for the rehabilitation of inmates, and Swaqa prison has a special farm to encourage inmates to embark on agricultural and live stock production.

Jordan halts stream of refugees from rump Yugoslavia

By Rana Sabbagh

AMMAN — Jordan has taken measures to curb an influx of Muslim Bosnians who have taken refuge in the Kingdom from raging ethnic violence at home.

"We are not ready to receive new refugees, we have enough," said one official, referring to the more than one million Palestinians who fled their homes during two Arab-Israeli wars. Under new rules which have effectively barred new arrivals, Bosnians need local sponsors who can secure Ministry of Interior authorisation with a pledge that their guests will return home after a maximum stay of three months.

Previously, they could arrive on ordinary visas and stay for up to six months.

As many as 1,000 Bosnians, mainly women and children, have come to Jordan since fighting flared up in Bosnia-Herzegovina in April.

Officials say those who have already arrived, many of them married to Jordanians, can stay until the fighting cases. But the new rules have come under fire from some politicians who feel that Jordan, which has strongly condemned attacks on Bosnians and joined a call for military intervention in the region, is not doing enough for its suffering Muslim brothers.

"It is our duty as Arabs and Muslims to help the Bosnians," said Muslim Brotherhood Deputy

Hamza Mansour, head of the Green Crescent Charity, which has sent nearly \$100,000 of donated supplies to Bosnia.

Many charities, some driven by religious ties like the Muslim Green Crescent, have sent food, clothes and medicine to Bosnia.

"I feel Muslim and Arab countries have shown slack support to Bosnia and I don't know how they will answer to God for their negligence," said Deputy Mansour. He said he had asked the government for permission to bring 50 sick and wounded Bosnian children to Jordan for treatment. The request however, is unlikely to be granted under the new rules.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Regent urges Arabs to consider future

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Regent, Sunday stressed the need for a future vision through the Arab dialogue, particularly amongst Arab industrialists and economists. Prince Hassan was talking during a meeting with a Lebanese delegation headed by Samir Al Magdisis, former Lebanese minister of industry and trade. Prince Hassan discussed with the delegation members issues pertaining to economic integration between Jordan and Lebanon. They stressed the need for adopting a unified Arab stand towards economic challenges facing the countries of the region.

Drug workshop to begin in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — A four-day workshop on basic drugs will start in Amman Monday. The Health Ministry and the World Health Organisation are organising the meeting which will discuss topics related to the circulation and use of basic drugs and the rationalisation of drug use.

WHAT'S GOING ON

EXHIBITIONS

— Sculpture exhibition by Mona Saudi at Al Balka Art Gallery in Al Fehs.

— Exhibition of paintings by Samer Ousama at the French Cultural Centre.

— Exhibition of paintings and silkscreen by three artists from Gaza: Fayez Al Hassani, Kamel Al Mughanni and Laila Shawa at Al-Hamra Shoman Foundation Gallery (10 a.m. - 8 p.m.).

— Exhibition by Iraqi artist Shaker Hassan Al Saeed at the Jordan Gallery of Fine Arts.

— Exhibition of paintings by artist Kamal Al Jawhari at Housing Bank Complex Art Gallery.

Olympic official completes visit

AMMAN (J.T.) — A senior official Mario Rana from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) completed two day visit to Jordan Sunday during which he met the prime minister and other officials to discuss preparations for the 1996 Olympics which will be held in Atlanta in the United States.

Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker told Mr. Rana that Jordan places great emphasis on sports, and is keen to interact with other nations in a competitive spirit.

Sharif Zeid paid tribute to the IOC's various committees whose efforts, he said, have made the Olympic games one of the major world sports events attracting the attention of millions around the globe.

The IOC official who chairs the Olympic committees said that his office was keen to involve Jordan's athletic teams in the coming games. Mr. Rana, who was due to leave Sunday evening held separate talks with Minister of Youth Dr. Saleh Irsheidat to discuss cooperation between the IOC and the Jordanian Olympic Committee (JOC).

The two sides agreed that the JOC should write officially to the IOC requesting that the latter involve Jordanian athletes in its training programmes for the Asia region especially those representing Jordan in the 1996 Olympics.

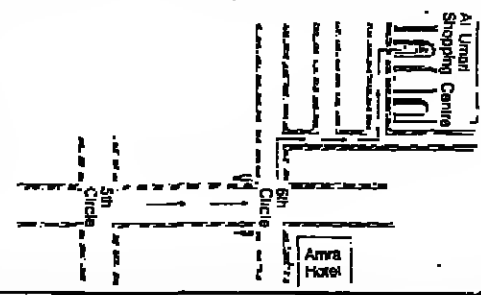
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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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Long overdue

AT A TIME when international pressure is mounting against Serbia and for stronger action against extremist Serbians, the U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali, of all people, is spearheading the chorus of voices insisting in effect on inaction in the face of the untold atrocities committed by Serbian forces against Bosnians and Croats. The secretary general is joined on this occasion by Cyrus Vance and David Owen, the two international mediators acting on behalf of the United Nations and the European Community (EC).

Of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, the U.S. in particular is taking issue with this defeatist attitude and is championing instead a more forceful reaction to the crimes against humanity being perpetrated by Serbian forces operating in Bosnia and Croatia. Upon the initiative of France, the Security Council finally took a decision Friday condemning the mass rape of Bosnian girls and women by Serbian soldiers. Unfortunately, London has yet to show sensitivity towards the war crimes that have occurred in Bosnia and Croatia as it is footdragging in efforts to do something meaningful about them.

The Arab and Islamic countries finally succeeded in prodding the General Assembly into action, albeit non-binding, by adopting a belated resolution calling for international measures against Serbia if it continues its aggression against Bosnia and persists in committing grave human rights violations against the Bosnians beyond Jan. 15, 1993. This is an impressive performance on the part of both the General Assembly and the Arab and Islamic states which moved for such an international action since the Serbian aggression and atrocities have been going on now for more than eight months and have taken a heavy toll on the lives of Bosnians and Croats so far. Why it took the Arab and Muslim countries so long to act and after no less than 100,000 of Bosnians and Croats were killed and about 100,000 Bosnian women were mass-raped is something that will haunt the international community for many years to come.

Unlike the basically rhetorical measures voted in by the General Assembly, the United States is busy documenting the names of the Serbs who have committed crimes against humanity for possible prosecution in the future. To their discredit, the rest of the concerned parties have not even thought of such a course of action. To his credit, U.S. President-elect Bill Clinton is galvanizing an effective international response to Serbia's flagrant violations of basic human rights in former Yugoslavia with noticeable vigour and determination.

But although the international reaction is long overdue, it is nevertheless needed and would hopefully produce positive results.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

THE ONLY reply to Israel's continued atrocities and the expulsion of Arabs from their homeland, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Sunday, lies in collective struggle on the part of all Arabs against the Israeli occupation of Arab land at all levels. The only way to force the Israelis to leave the occupied Arab lands is through a pan-Arab action and full support by the Arab countries for the Palestinian Arabs in their fight for freedom, said the daily. The struggle against the common Zionist enemy, the paper pointed out, is not the sole responsibility of the Palestinian people but rather a common duty for all Arabs who want to defend their honour, their land and their future. The paper said that the latest U.N. Security Council resolution condemning the Israeli deportation of Arabs and demanding their immediate return constitutes nothing and is worth nothing if it is not backed by force to oblige Israel to return the expelled people. Regrettably, the United States, which has appointed itself as the policeman of the world, does not interfere here to force the Israelis, who are Washington's allies, to rescind their decision and comply with the council resolution, therefore, the U.N. Security Council, which is under America's influence, is not expected to take a practical step to see that its own resolution is implemented, said the daily. The deportees, who are exposed to cold and rain, continue to face the cruelty of nature and man while the international community continues to ignore its responsibility, the paper added. The paper demanded quick action on the part of the Arab and Islamic nations in support of the Palestinian people and speedy diplomatic move at the international level to end force Israel to comply with U.N. resolutions.

A COLUMNIST in SAWT AL SHAAB daily said that those Arabs who have not decided whether to support or not Hamas are now fully supporting the Palestinian resistance movement. Hamas has now succeeded in spearheading the struggle against the Israeli occupation and is leading the way of the intifada, said Arafat Hijazi. The writer said that Hamas has proved to the world that Yitzhak Rabin was no different in nature and policy from the previous prime minister and the other Zionist aggressors who are bent on oppressing the Palestinian presence in the occupied lands. The writer said that more than one year has passed since the start of the peace process, but nothing has been achieved. If anything, the year-long negotiations have indeed encouraged the Israelis to become more adamant and intransigent in their position, giving nothing and holding to every inch of occupied land, the writer said. Hamas is leading the way for the intifada by attacking Israeli soldiers who have been killing Palestinian civilians, added the writer. He said that the Israelis have been committing atrocities indiscriminately in occupied Palestine and escaping punishment until Hamas emerged with a greater force,

Weekly Political Pulse

Muslims shamefully failed Bosnia

ONE cannot but feel saddened by the impotence of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) in the face of the mounting atrocities committed by Serbian forces. Even on the rhetorical and diplomatic levels, what emerged from their meeting in Jeddah a few weeks ago was nothing to be proud of or to suggest even the remotest interest in the lives of the Bosnian Muslims, much less in their political and security fates. The presence of Messrs. Cyrus Vance and David Owen, the two arbiters representing the United Nations and the European Community respectively, succeeded only in cowering the fifty odd member states of the OIC into inaction. U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali has been setting the stage for international paralysis by suggesting that inaction would be preferable to action in the case of Bosnia in particular. The Arab League did not fare much better either in directing the Arab efforts to lend meaningful support to the international efforts purporting to end the crimes against humanity and war crimes constantly and flagrantly committed by the Serbian forces.

The Arab and Islamic indifference to the hundreds of thousands of cases of death and rape perpetrated in the open against Bosnian Muslims was amply demonstrated when the conscience of the Muslim and Arab worlds failed to mobilise even the most modest diplomatic, economic and political reaction. Alas, nothing in the vein of appropriate reaction had occurred and nothing of the sort appears to be in the pipeline for two simple reasons: Neither an Arab World nor a Muslim World do

exist and any protestations to the contrary are simply deceitful. It would be more honest if the Arab League and the OIC just fold up and wither away. No one would miss them, for sure.

Had there been truly a Muslim Nation or an Arab Nation, these should have been some of the first lines of actions they could have undertaken since the conflict started in former Yugoslavia:

1. Call on the U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali to be more sensitive to the sufferings of the Bosnian and Croat peoples.
2. Identify the states that lend support to Serbia, either materially or politically, and cut diplomatic relations with them.
3. Use the "oil weapon" against all countries that impede meaningful actions against the Serbs.

4. Chronicle all atrocities committed by the Serbs against the Bosnians and draw up a list of all those who are responsible for them in order to hold them accountable even if it takes tens and tens of years.

In this vein, the disgraceful performance of the Arab World in the face of the Sabra and Chatilla massacres committed against Palestinians in Beirut in 1982 must never be repeated. Rather, the file of Sabra and Chatilla must be reopened in order to demonstrate to the Serbs that the Arabs could be serious in their endeavours against atrocities committed against their people, wherever they may be. In this context, the Arab and Muslim nations have a lot to learn from Israel, especially with regard to its zealous and unfettered concern about the fate of its people whether in Ethiopia, the former Soviet Union or Eastern Europe.

In addition to such efforts on the international level, the Arab and Muslim people should have been mobilised more effectively in the light of the shocking disclosures about the heinous atrocities committed by the Serbs against the Bosnians. It is admitted that neither the Arab nor the Muslim mass media have been forceful and systematic enough in depicting the horrors that occur almost daily in Bosnia. I submit that the coverage allotted to the alarming situation in Bosnia thus far has been muted, sporadic and low key. The distinct impression one gets from the publicity being accorded to the Bosnian crisis is the Arab and Muslim press is one that suggests that the problem is marginal, routine and inconsequential.

To put matters in proper perspective, I raise these issues out of fanaticism, extremism or biased concern for my Muslim people in Bosnia. My motivation is solely to (A) highlight the Serbian atrocities that are committed against the Bosnians and seek effective means to put an end to them and (B) apprehend those responsible for them even if it takes decades. I perceive the Israeli religious, political and ideological will that drives them into action in defense of their people and wish my people could be the same one day. As is, we are simply cold-blooded people, lacking animation or ability to respond to tragedies amply demonstrated such bad characteristics when we come the same crimes against our own people and no wonder we have move when others commit similar crimes against our people.

For young Israelis, intifada lesson is that old rules don't work

By David Hoffman

HERZLIYYA, Israel — As young boys, the three of them romped together on the streets of this seaside upper-middle class town. Alon, Uri and Omer were among the elite of their generation, and when it came time to join the Israeli army they enlisted in the most prestigious fighting units.

Then they stepped into the unknown. At the time they were donning their uniforms in late 1987 and early 1988, the Palestinian intifada, or uprising, exploded in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. Suddenly, they were no longer following in the footsteps of their fathers, who had been soldiers in Israel's 1967 and 1973 wars against the Arab states. Instead, they were running through strange Arab villages not far from their homes, chasing children, ducking stones and witnessing things they had never imagined.

For Alon, the towering, muscular son of a building contractor, the reality of the situation began to dawn on him one night in the confusion and darkness of the Gaza Strip. Searching for the Palestinian suspect, soldiers threw open the door of a house and Alon moved in. He found himself stepping on children, a dozen or more, sleeping on the floor.

"From the beginning, it was not a war," Alon recalled, relaxing recently with a stack of art books under his arm at a Herzliyya coffee shop. "I knew I had to handle kids, women and old people, very old people. When you get a mission, you go and bring the person in, and I suppose you win. But in global terms, you win nothing. We'll be back in the same home a year later. What have you won? There is no black and white."

Over and over for the next three years, these three friends saw despair and fear, and they felt the sting of hate. They were tormented about this war that was not really a war, about the reactions of their families, friends and commanders; about the poverty, insults and bizarre events they witnessed — and participated in — as they tried to

police the uprising.

And they ended their army stint feeling something that they had not felt when it began — that Israel's Palestinian problem would not go away. For these three childhood friends, and perhaps for many young Israeli soldiers, the intifada was an awakening, a realization that their country had to deal with its problem and could not easily continue ruling the Palestinians as it had for 20 years before the uprising.

This may be one of the most profound and lasting impacts of the Palestinian revolt on young Israelis who had first-hand experience in the intifada; now many urgently want a practical settlement of the Palestinian dispute.

According to the soldiers, the intifada experience, like Israel's war in Lebanon in the early 1980s, has left almost no Israeli feeling neutral. The Lebanon conflict marked one of the most divisive periods in Israel's history, and the scars, it seems, are still being felt between right and left.

Despite the polarization, there are signs that the intifada had the effect of persuading Israelis that something had to be done about the Arab territories that Israel captured in the 1967 Middle East war. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin embodied this sentiment in

winning election this year with a vow to negotiate quickly an agreement on local Palestinian autonomy, while pulling back from the rightist dreams of flooding the territories with Jewish settlers.

According to a poll-taker, Hanoch Smith, a key element of Mr. Rabin's victory was his ability to tap the unease felt by voters about the territories and the Palestinian revolt. "There is no question that part of the shift was more moderation, a sensible and pragmatic approach," Mr. Smith said.

Israeli opinion polls showed at the outset of the intifada that a majority of the public wanted a stern suppression of the uprising and felt the government was not doing enough, Mr. Smith recalled.

But that view has mellowed over five years, and now the iron-fist sentiment has eased as the uprising itself has abated. In the last few years, Mr. Smith said, polls have shown a growing confidence in how military and political leaders have reacted to the revolt, which shifted from mass demonstrations to more specific acts of terror and violence.

It may be impossible to measure how deeply the intifada has affected Israeli society. In terms of fatalities, the toll was far less than in any of Israel's wars. Day

to day, many Israelis simply shut out the violence, staying away from the territories and Arab markets. After early confusion about how to handle a civilian revolt, the Israeli military now goes after the hard-core intifada activists with special units whose work is largely hidden from public view. Demonstrations and riots are far less frequent.

But there may be deeper political and psychological consequences that are just beginning to be realized from the experience of a generation of young soldiers. Their conclusions may mark a path for Israel for years to come.

"The young Israelis never confronted the Palestinians before," said Reuven Gal, former chief psychologist for the army. "But when they became soldiers in the West Bank and Gaza, suddenly they confronted it in its worst form. They concluded we cannot control it for many years, and we don't want it. This was the big discovery of the intifada."

"This is a process of growing realism," said Mr. Gal, director of the Israel Institute for Military Studies, a research organization. "For the right-wing guys who thought we can control the territories for years and years, they now are coming to the conclusion we cannot do that, it's just impossible, and we don't want to. For the left-wingers, the kibbutzniks, they confronted the same

hell, riots, blockades, spitting and insults, and they also saw that the territories are not all that desirable."

Many soldiers would like to forget the misery and fear of their service. "The experiences in the territories were intense," Uri recalled, "and I think you don't want to remember the poor lady screaming when you take her son. I will never forget what I saw, not when I am 80 years old, the bad things."

Parents, soldiers and psychologists said the intifada stirred young soldiers' emotions far more deeply than had the invasion of Lebanon or Israel's other wars. Soldiers said they did what they had to do, but they were not anxious to recall the beatings, the violence, the shooting, the arrest and the hate.

Among Israeli teenagers, Mr. Gal said, there have been some disturbing shifts in attitude. Surveys done after the 1973 war and again in the first years of the intifada found a growing fear of violence and an increasing willingness by young people to express hatred of Arabs generally. The traditional high motivation to serve in the army was undiminished, but the reasons seemed to have changed.

"It's the typical psychological triangle," Mr. Gal said. "Fear creates hatred and results in a desire to be aggressive. We never

saw that in the past. Israel's wars, having been a motivating desire, intifada created a new kind of hatred."

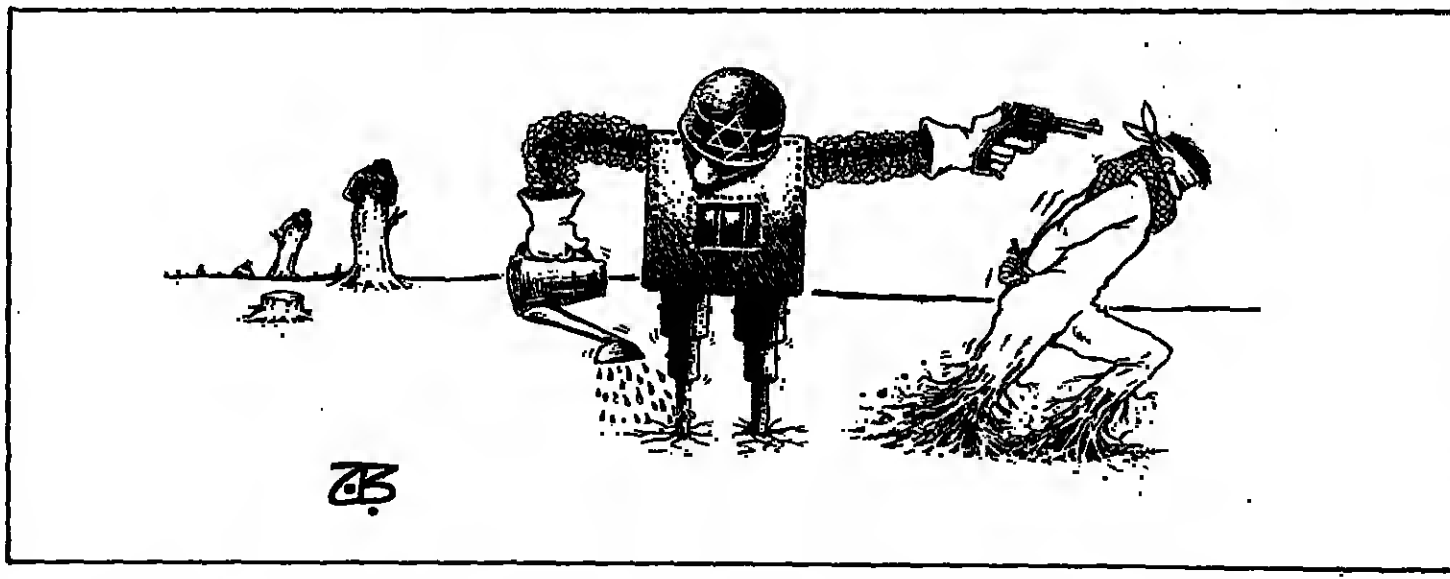
While in the army, friends from Herzliyya in different units and now on visits. They are just like university students after three to four years of compulsory service, which, at age 18 and includes rotation to the occupied territories in southern Lebanon.

Uri Keynan, 24, now in Beersheba, where he is a chemical engineering student at Bar Ilan University, Omer Rabin, 21, of Tel Aviv, is studying marketing. Alon, 23, of Herzliyya, who asked that his last name be used because he remains a special military unit, is a national handball player, studying interior design, the self-confident days of 1967 Middle East war, the up as teenagers together, soccer and joined the same movement.

"For them, the territories — and remain — a foreign not part of their Israel," 10 years when I go to a market, I'll have a person over there. Today, they being called the Palestinian and you have to deal with them. Serving in the army only my opinion stronger."

Alon said he shared a cy about finding. "You're out there, the answers and asking. 'What's wrong here? It's a big problem. You live in the same country. You handle it. The two sides come together.'"

"I want something to do said Uri. 'All of us want, thing to change.' The U gave the Israeli people a ledge and understanding there is another nation, among us, and they show more than they have now, that you have to talk to You have to listen to the 'I would like to this intifada happened for the he said. 'It woke us up dream.' — Washington Post



Clinton inherits conflicts that don't follow rules

By Thomas L. Friedman

It is not a pretty sight.

In effect, we now live a bipolar world. The old cold war world, divided in half by a struggle between communism and capitalism, seems to be giving way to a new world divided in thirds: those states that achieved or are striving toward some form of democracy and free markets, those that will settle instead for some form

"will be establishing guidelines for which one of these problems we try to solve, and which ones we can't. He is going to have to redefine what are American interests abroad. He cannot let television do that."

Indeed, without a Soviet Union to compel and define American engagement abroad, CNN in some ways is taking its place. Does anyone believe, had the American networks not beamed a steady stream of pictures of starving children back to Washington, that President Bush would have been moved to intervene in Somalia, and win the support of the American public? The main reason many Americans are now calling for a similar intervention in Bosnia but not the Sudan, where murderous tribal infighting and starvation is also rampant, is that the cameras have gotten into Sarajevo and not Khartoum.

In a world where every American household will soon have access to cable television, Ted Turner could be the new de facto Secretary of State. It certainly seemed that way 10 days ago, as American troops landed on the beaches of Somalia. Under the network klieg lights, the Marines secured Mogadishu. Before the latest commercial interruption, they were waiting to head for the town of Baidoa.

The luck or the misery of the

television draw, though, cannot be allowed to substitute for policy. There are two ways Mr. Clinton can avoid this. One is preemptive diplomacy, addressing problems before they reach the intervention-demanding stage — something that could have made a difference in Somalia and Bosnia. Last week Mr. Clinton asked for time to do just that.

"On balance," he said, "Let's make one thing clear: it is a wonderful thing that the cold war is over. But let's also admit that the end of the bipolar world has made it possible to peel a layer off human aggression and made it possible in some parts of the world for people to be starved, brutalized and killed with much greater abandon."

"I have two choices. We can either focus on these problems, come up with a decent policy and aggressively pursue it, or wait for it to explode. Then the problems will swarm on us and I might have to spend all my time on foreign policy."

But some problems will be resistant to American preemptive diplomacy, and here the challenge for Mr. Clinton will be deciding which to take on, which to ignore and which to leave for others. It will be crucial for him to explain what he does, and what he doesn't. That means articulating the differences between

Somalia and Kurdistan, Iran and Mozambique, Mozambique and Haiti, to avoid a trapped in a moral dilemma in which intervention in one seems to automatically require intervention in another. In ways, Somalia, the country American troops intervened the first time purely for strategic "humanitarian" reasons, is an easier case than others. It is a rare combination of an unspeakable tragedy, a relatively cost-free rescue mission, and a humanitarian crisis.

"Some say Bush's Gulf exorcised the ghosts of Vietnam and now Somalia has exorcised the ghosts of Beirut," said Middle East scholar E. J. Ajami. "But I would argue Somalia tells us nothing about intervention there was beyond diplomacy. It was test of the limits of our policy, but the limits of our policy. In some ways the limits of post-cold-war American foreign policy will be defined by Somalia. Bosnia demands just a humanitarian call, but a political and strategic commitment. It is difficult to make a difference there without an American lives in a potential open-ended conflict, where the only bad guys are the bad guys and the bad guys come in shapes and sizes. — The New York Times

Expelled

(Continued from page 1)

ing frightens us. U.N. resolutions are usually implemented on everyone but Israel." Lebanese Defence Minister Oathoun said the expulsions amounted to an attack on Lebanon which would never permit the Palestinians to enter and join their agreement and insisted they go back.

"Their situation is miserable," said Voice of Lebanon radio and. "The international community and humanitarian organizations must take full responsibility for these people."

Lebanese troops search all cars entering and leaving the camp to expel Palestinians sneaking out or Iranian guerrillas reaching in.

"Everything is bad in this cold winter," said Abdul Aziz Rantisi, 37, a doctor from Khan Yunis in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip who is alleged to have links with the Islamic resistance movement Hamas.

"We have heard about the problems in our land and Rabin is murdering ordering his soldiers to shoot our children, our mothers and fathers," he added.

Some of the 415 have threatened they would try to swim back into the "security zone" later in the week if Israel did not let them return.

"We've decided to wait four or five days. If our plight is not solved by then, we are going to take our lives and storm the zone," said Mohammad Neis, 33.

Bahrain

(Continued from page 1)

The decree excluded joint membership in the cabinet and council, but said other government employees chosen for council would be able to turn to their jobs once their term expired.

Bahrain had an elected parliament by virtue of its 1973 independence constitution. But it is disbanded in 1975 after the late minister complained his government was unable to pursue work because of criticism from council members.

Israel maintains its defiance

(Continued from page 1)

The Palestinians, huddled in green ponchos against the wind and rain, vowed to stay put in the rocky no-man's land between Israeli and Lebanese forces where they were dumped Thursday.

Mr. Rabin said Israel was fighting spreading Islamic fundamentalism and the expelled Palestinians were the responsibility of the Beirut government.

"I believe that it will be a mistake on the part of... the Lebanese government to try to push them back into our area. It will be a major mistake," he told reporters after lighting candles for a Jewish festival.

"We are determined... they will be removed temporarily as it was decided," he said in response to questions.

Mr. Hariri was equally adamant not to allow them into Lebanese government-controlled territory. "There is absolutely no way we will change our position. Never, ever," he told reporters in Beirut.

Sari Nusseibeh, an influential adviser to Palestinian negotiators, said Sunday the Middle East peace talks appeared doomed unless Israel let the Palestinians back.

"At this point, I do not see any possibility at all of continuing with the peace process," he said.

"We cannot continue with the

Kismayu

(Continued from page 1)

mission he performed in Baidoa the day before it was taken by the Marines and French legionnaires.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) lost 30 trucks laden with food north of Mogadishu at the weekend in an apparent case of looting, a U.N. relief official said.

The vehicles were believed to have been loaded with rice donated by French schoolchildren, said Ian Macleod, spokesman for the U.N. Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM).

Self-styled Somali President Ali Mahdi Mohammad made a surprise visit to Addis Ababa and held talks with President Meles Zenawi, the Ethiopian News Agency (ENA) reported Sunday.

The two exchanged views on measures that should be taken to improve humanitarian assistance and ways of ending conflict among various Somali factions, ENA said.

House delays debate on press

(Continued from page 1)

but failed to muster the two-third majority that the Constitution requires to overturn the King's veto if the law is put to vote again in the same ordinary session in which it was adopted.

However, the House did not need a two-third majority to pass the draft legislation Sunday because the Constitution says a simple majority is needed to pass the draft law if it is voted on in the ordinary session following the one in which it was vetoed by the King.

"After thoroughly studying (the draft law) and the reasons for which it was not ratified (by the King)," the Law Committee decided to amend articles two, three and four of the 10-article draft legislation.

The committee amended Article 2 of the law to read: "In

special circumstances necessitated by public interest, the prime minister has the right to set up one or more special courts called the State Security Court, each comprising three civil judges and/or military judges appointed by the prime minister in the case of civil judges and by the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the case of military judges."

The article originally restricted the number of military judges in the court to two and said that civilian judges appointed to the

court had to be of the rank of an under-secretary in the civil service.

The committee added two new clauses to Article 3, which gives the State Security Court the right to try civilians or members of the security forces who commit crimes against state security, violate the law on the protection of confidential government documents and other cases related to forgery, drugs and financial and economic crimes.

The committee also amended Article 4 of the draft law to read: "The chairman of the Joint

Chiefs of Staff appoints the director of the military judiciary or one of his assistants as general prosecutor at the State Security Court and can appoint one or more military judges as assistants to him. (The chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff) can also appoint a military judge or more as general prosecutors in accordance with the authority given to all of them under the codes of criminal procedures."

The article originally gave the right to appoint general prosecutors to the minister of justice.

The draft law will now be sent

to the Upper House of Parliament for approval and will have to be signed by the King before it is adopted as a law.

It will replace the 1959 State Security Law.

Earlier, the Financial Committee of the House discussed the draft budget law in the presence of Finance Minister Basel Jarrah. Chairman of the Committee Abdullah Al Akaileh said the committee focused its discussion on incomes of government employees and retired people.

The House is scheduled to hold its next session Wednesday.

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SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

49ers clinch NFC West title

NEW YORK (R) — The San Francisco 49ers clinched the National Football Conference West division title for the sixth time in seven years Saturday with a 21-14 victory at home over the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. Steve Young threw three touchdown passes — two to Jerry Rice — to raise San Francisco's record to 13-2. In addition to the division title, the victory secured home field advantage throughout the playoffs for the 49ers. The Kansas City Chiefs were thwarted in their attempt to clinch a berth in the National Football League playoffs by losing 35-21 to the New York Giants in East Rutherford, New Jersey. In San Francisco, star quarterback Joe Montana, who led the 49ers to four Super Bowl titles, was in uniform on the sidelines after being activated from the injured list.

Vikings launch 'flagship' of '94 Winter Olympics

OSLO (AP) — Nowegians launched the symbolic flagship of the 1994 Winter Olympics opening a giant sports hall inspired by the longboats of their Viking ancestors. The 250-metre long multipurpose centre in the town of Hamar is officially named the Hamar Olympic Hall. Norwegians call the 252 million kroner (\$37 million) complex on the shores of Mjøsa, the country's largest lake, simply "The Viking Ship," which it was designed to resemble. During the Winter Games in February 1994, the Hall, 50 kilometres south of the Olympic host city of Lillehammer, will be the site of the speed skating events.

Girardelli beats Kjus, Nyberg

KRANJSKA GORA, Slovenia (AP) — Four time World Cup champion Marc Girardelli of Luxembourg overpowered a strong coalition of Scandinavian and Italian skiers to score his second season victory in a giant slalom race Sunday. The 29-year-old Austrian-born skier clocked a winning aggregate time of 1 minute, 37.40 seconds in two runs down the icy Podkoren course in this Slovenian resort. It was the 30th career victory for Girardelli, who's shooting for an unprecedented fifth overall title this season. Norway's Lasse Kjus had his best World Cup showing since 1990 placing second, 0.16 behind the winner. Swede Fredrik Nyberg edged another Norwegian, Kjetil Andre Aamodt, for third place.

Italy scrape past Malta as Baresi sent off

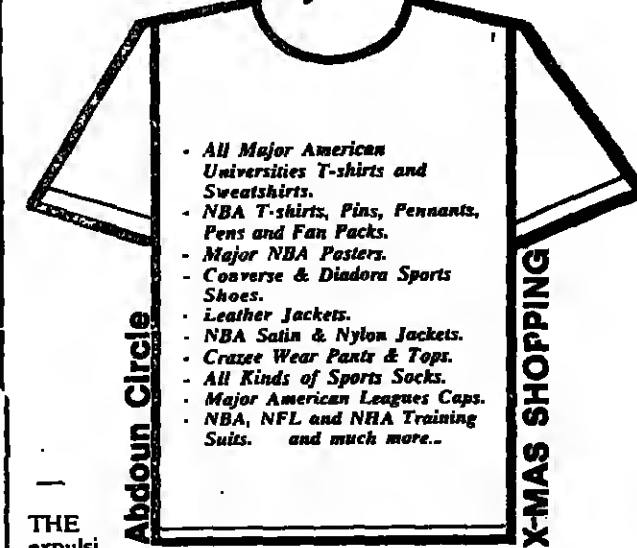
VALLETTA (R) — Italy had captain Franco Baresi sent off and only just avoided major embarrassment when they beat tiny Malta 2-1 in a World Cup qualifier. The win was Italy's first after two draws in European Group 1, but their performance is hardly likely to satisfy coach Arrigo Sacchi or strike fear into the hearts of their rivals. Italy laboured for almost an hour before taking the lead but goals from strikers Gianluca Vialli and Giuseppe Signori in the space of three minutes appeared to have secured victory. The game changed in the 68th minute when Baresi was sent off for deliberate handball, conceding a penalty in the process. Malta captain Christian La Ferla wasted that golden opportunity, his spot kick being saved by Sampdoria goalkeeper Gianluca Pagliuca.

Spanish yacht wins Trans-Atlantic race

MIAMI (R) — Spain's Publiespana captured the maxi class of the 4,500-mile Route of the Discovery III yacht race arriving three hours ahead of the Merit of Switzerland. The yacht arrived after more than 20 days of Trans-Atlantic sailing. The yachts were among 18 boats, representing six countries, that left Palos de la frontera, Huelva, Spain, November 28. They followed the route of Christopher Columbus took 500 years earlier to San Salvador in Bahamas before proceeding to Fort Lauderdale and Miami. It took the lead vessels 19 days to reach San Salvador — much faster than the 70 days it took Columbus in 1492.

Stop & Shop at

Champions Sportswear



The Specialty Shop for the young ... and the young at heart.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF
A TANNAN HIRSCH
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LOOSE LIPS SINK DEFENSES

Neither vulnerable. South deals.
NORTH
♠ J 3 2
♥ J 10 5 3
♦ 6 4
♣ K Q 7 4
EAST
♠ A K Q 10 8 4
♥ 7
♦ A K Q 10 8 3
♣ J 10 8 6 5 3
SOUTH
♠ 9 7 6
♥ A K Q 9 6
♦ A 5
♣ A 2

The bidding: South West North East
1 Pass Pass Pass
2 Opening lead: Five of ♠
When defending, don't tell partner where your high cards are when a course of the play is obvious. An enemy, the declarer, also is used in to your wavelength and could use that information against you.
Four hearts was reached in quick time despite the intervention. West dutifully led a spade and East cashed three aces. On the second trick West discarded the ten

EUROPEAN SOCCER ROUNDUP

Cantona rewards Man. United's gamble

LONDON (R) — Eric Cantona, the temperamental French striker branded a liability by some of his previous seven clubs, showed Saturday precisely why he remains irresistible to top soccer managers.

His first goal in his third league match for his new English club Manchester United not only salvaged a draw at rival title-challengers Chelsea, but reassured manager Alex Ferguson that his gamble could pay off.

Cantona tapped in a header from Mike Phelan for a simple goal just three minutes after Chelsea had taken the lead through David Lee in the 67th minute. It earned United a precious point.

Despite the controversy that has consistently overshadowed the talented Frenchman in a chequered career which has seen him storm out of clubs, insult officials and briefly quit the game, Ferguson, insists Cantona is a huge asset.

"There were sceptics in our club wondering whether he was the right one," Ferguson said this week. "He won the League title for Leeds last season — that's how good he is."

"It is not a big gamble at one million pounds (\$1.5 million)."

Cantona, 26, joined Leeds in February and helped them over-

haul United to win the League title, but despite two hat-tricks this season he had become unsettled after several matches on the Leeds substitutes' bench.

At the midway point of the Premier League season, United are well placed in a group of four clubs chasing Norwich and beginning to strike the kind of form that could see them mount a challenge to oust the surprise pacesetters in the New Year.

Second-placed Aston Villa drew 1-1 at Manchester City to move within four points of leaders Norwich — who play Ipswich Monday — and continue to show championship credentials in a run of 14 league games with just one defeat.

Chelsea, sitting fifth a point behind United and six adrift of Norwich after a run with just one defeat in nine games, believe they are serious contenders.

Liverpool, the club with a winner's pedigree who had recently shown signs of a revival, were blown devastatingly off course in their heaviest defeat for 16 years.

Coventry, the early-season pacesetters who had gone 11 games without a win, crushed the F.A. Cup holders 5-1 as Liverpool-born Mick Quinn scored twice against his boyhood heroes.

The rout — Liverpool's worst

result since Villa beat them 5-1 in December 1976 — was started by another Liverpool-born player, defender Brian Borrows who hit two goals including a penalty.

Their eighth defeat of the season leaves them 11 points behind Norwich having played a game more.

Auxerre crush Le Havre

On-form Auxerre crushed Le Havre 4-1 to draw level at the top of the table with Nantes who were beaten 2-0 at lowly Toulouse in the French Soccer League.

The two sides have exactly the same goal difference and they were joined on 26 points at the halfway stage of the season by Monaco, who managed a goalless draw at Lyon.

Champions Marseille, who notched a 1-0 win at ambitious Paris St Germain are in fourth place, one point behind but with a game in hand.

Real Madrid fall to Sevilla

Three Real Madrid players and one from Sevilla were sent off as their Spanish First Division match degenerated into brutal encounter.

All four received their mar-

ching orders in the second half as title challengers Real, in third place one point behind League leaders Barcelona, went down to a 2-0 defeat.

Real went behind to a 32nd minute goal by Croat Davor Suker and play became increasingly ugly in the second half as Real's frustration became apparent.

Real's Ricardo Rocha was the first to be sent off after receiving his second yellow card in the 63rd minute.

Midfielder Marcos de La Fuente wrapped up the scoring for the home team a minute from the end when he drew goalkeeper Paco Buyo out of the goalmouth and calmly placed the all in the net.

The bad-tempered display for once took some of the spotlight away from Diego Maradona, who has played disappointingly since his much publicised debut with Sevilla in early October.

But the former Argentine captain put up probably his best performance so far and led a number of attacks on Real's goal.

PSV extend lead

PSV Eindhoven stretched their lead in the Dutch Soccer League to six points Saturday with a 1-0 home victory over Vitesse Arnhem.

Romario to give up 'dirty' game

PORTO ALEGRE (R) — It has saved him from poverty and given him a lifestyle most of his fellow Brazilians can only dream about.

But Romario de Souza Farias thinks soccer is a dirty game. Few people involved in it can be trusted.

When he is 29, an age when many players reach their peak, Romario intends to quit.

"There's too much dishonesty in soccer. It's a very dirty game," he said after a training session.

"Too many of the players, trainers and others are liars. They will say one thing to your face and another behind your back."

"The press are another problem. I would say 30 per cent distort everything but that is enough to damage my reputation."

He cited his idol, Vasco De Gama and former Brazil striker Roberto, as an example of how people are treated in the game.

Roberto, who played in the 1978 World Cup, spent almost all of his career at Vasco yet last year was unceremoniously loaned to Campo Grande, a minor side in Rio De Janeiro.

Romario said his current club, Dutch champions PSV Eindhoven, would be his last. He intends to make enough money to guarantee a stable future for himself and his family and then get out of the game.

"Football has given me everything I have, but I want to get out." He has no idea what he will do when that day comes.

Romario is one of the deadliest strikers in soccer today and the scorer of some spectacular goals.

Life for Romario has been a rags to riches story typical of so many Brazilian players.

He was brought up in a poor suburb of Rio and began his career with Vasco Da Gama, his only club until he moved to PSV

in 1989. Much of his income from soccer has been passed on to pull his family free from the grasp of poverty.

Off the field he is shy, softly-spoken with a slight lisp and clearly wary of the press.

His career has been littered with disappointments and controversy. He was injured less than six months before the 1990 World Cup and, though he recovered, was unable to regain his place in the team.

One year later he announced he would not play for Brazil in the South American championship because he wanted to go on holiday.

Earlier this year westerhof left him out of PSV's European Cup match away to AEK Athens. PSV lost 1-0. Romario was brought in for the second leg and replied by scoring all the goals in a 3-0 win. "I was right," Romario said.

76ers beat Bulls 98-96

By the Associated Press

HERSEY HAWKINS scored 24 points and Philadelphia won for only the third time in 14 games, beating Chicago 98-96.

Michael Jordan had his 25th career triple double for the Bulls, getting 23 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists. Despite that, Chicago had its three-game winning streak stopped. The Bulls pulled within 93-91 with 47 seconds left, but as the Bulls pressed, Clarence Weatherspoon was all alone for an easy basket to seal the win.

In Milwaukee, Isiah Thomas scored 26 points and Dennis Rodman collected 22 rebounds as red-hot Detroit rolled over Milwaukee, handing the Bucks their 10th straight loss, 103-90.

The Pistons won for the ninth time in their last 10 games after a 2-9 start. Milwaukee, which led the Central Division earlier this season, fell to 10-13.

Rodman, the NBA's leading rebounder, collected at least 20 boards for the 10th time in his last 12 games. Joe Dumars added 19 points for Detroit.

Patrick Ewing had 24 points and a career high 26 rebounds and Rolando Blackman broke a last-minute tie with four of his season-high 23 points, giving New York a 91-87 victory over Miami.

The win was Pat Riley's 600th of his career. He's the 12th coach to reach that milestone. New York, in improving its league-best home record to 12-1, lowered its NBA leading shooting percentage defense to 42-1.

Indurain wins again; Lemond fades again

PARIS (AP) — It was almost as though someone was playing a video tape. Miguel Indurain won the Tour de France; Gianni Bugno won the World Championship; and three time Tour de France winner Greg Lemond faded on a mountain climb.

The same things that happened in 1991 happened again, except this time Lemond didn't make it to the finish of the Tour de France.

Indurain romped to his second tour title, wearing the leader's yellow jersey for the last nine days and ending up more 4 1/2 minutes ahead of Claudio Chiappucci and Bugno.

Indurain won all three of the time trials. His most impressive performance was in Luxembourg, finishing three minutes ahead of his nearest competitor and four minutes ahead of his major rivals, including Lemond.

The American faded more after that, an extension of the fatigue he felt from the start, when it took him more than a day

to get to the beginning of the race in Spain.

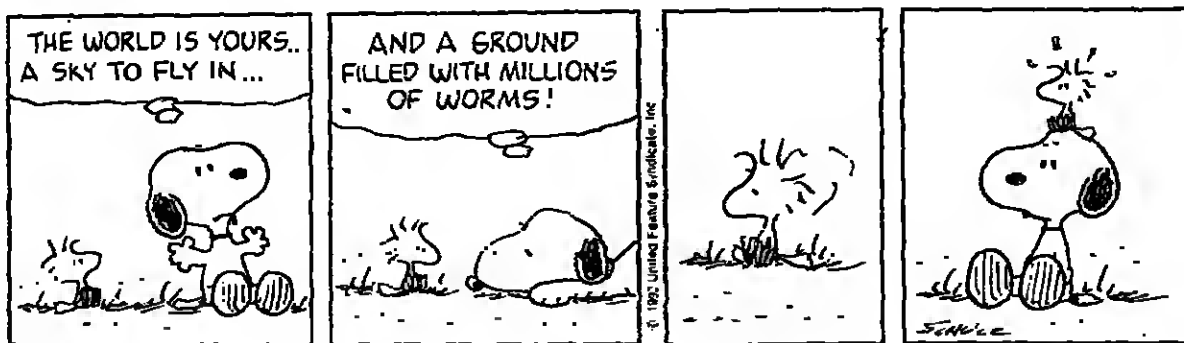
He now faces an uncertain future.

Last year, Lemond finished seventh, the first time in six tours that he failed to finish in the top three.

He says he is more motivated to win again but he will be hard pressed to live up to his previous exploits as he will be 32 by the time of the next Tour de France.

One that needed no motivation was Indurain, a 29-year-old from the Navarra region of Spain.

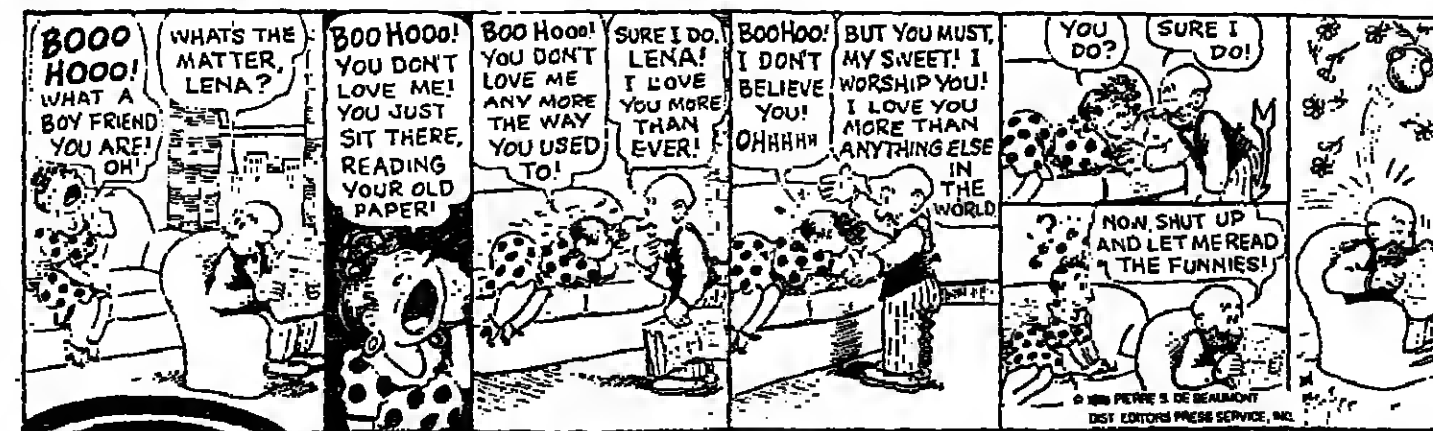
Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY DECEMBER 21, 1992

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Highler Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The Winter Solstice starts as the Sun enters Capricorn early this morning bringing a new awareness of your true popularity and clearing up misunderstandings that have occurred with others.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Get an early start for doing those things you want to bring more to your residence, then relax and let them work out well.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You can get off important messages and especially to get busy, do so right after breakfast, then avoid a tiff with one of your kin.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) A money matter has the chance to easily be settled or arranged before lunch after which study new ways by which to gain an abundance and to spare.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) You can pursue that rainbow wish that means so much to you and have a good chance to get it and later its not a good time to take any chances.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You have the energy and vision to think out quickly a course to bring you desires, benefits so concentrate on this; then avoid a bling with an inflated ego.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) A friend of a romantic turn of mind can indicate to you how you

can have more happiness with attachment, after which, don't in a money hassle.

LIBRA: (September 23 to Oct 22) Get busy early in the morning those vocational or other agreements which are expected or that you have agreed to be later avoid a temptations hassle.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to Nov 21) Consider well every condition you want at your residence, then relax and let them work out well.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to Dec 21) This is the time to get right at whatever of business nature is at your fingertips sweep through the day and practical results.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to Jan 20) Whatever you have in mind of a partnership make be made to work if you early, a frank and well rounded opinion with such persons.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to Feb 19) Put more enthusiasm whatever tasks face you and they will continue through the evening without other possible hitch.

PISCES: (February 20 to Mar 20) Seek out the person whom you wish to have a recreation or entertainment whether by phone or personal and get their approval of amusement.

HE BETTER HALF.

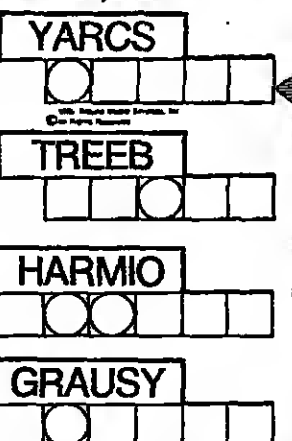
By Harris



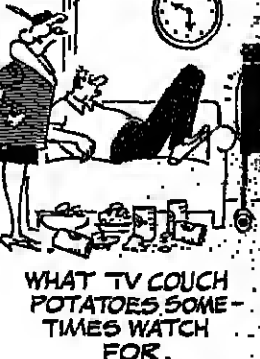
"Every Christmas my parents give me the same thing...a migraine!"

JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



You're still lying there?

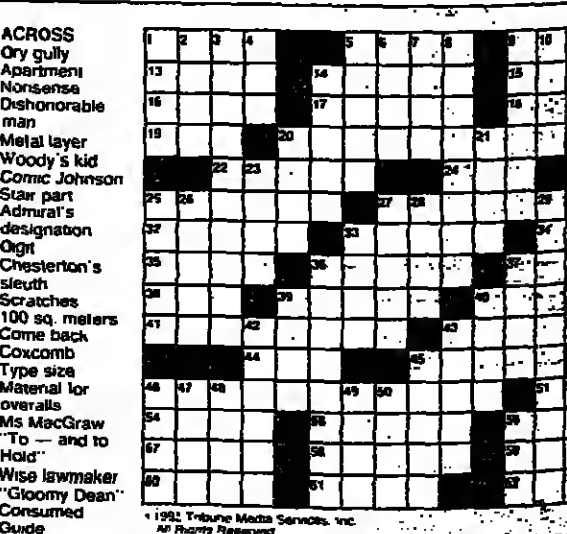


WHAT TV COUCH POTATOES SOMETIMES WATCH FOR.

Print answer here: (Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: LUCID MAKER, DECADE, FLOWED. Answer: Two steelworkers fell in love, and got the "WELOD".

THE Daily Crossword by Matthew Higgins



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ACROSS
1 Dry gully
5 Apartment
9 Nonsense
13 Dishonorable man
14 Metal layer
15 Woody's kid
16 Comic Johnson
17 Star part
18 Admura's designation
19 Opt
20 Chesterton's sleuth
22 Scratches
24 100 sq. meters
25 Come back
27 Coxcomb
32 Type size
33 Material for overalls
34 Ms MacGraw
35 "and to hold"
36 Wise lawmaker
37 "Gloomy Dean"
38 Consumed
39 Guide
40 Piffer
41 Most favorable, as conditions
43 Disgraced
44 Cup handle
45 Florida city
46 Sayen's sleuth
51 Tease
54 Landed
55 Venerably
56 Bygone support
57 Purple-red
58 Rant again
59 Gynasti Korbur
60 — do well
61
62 Type of light
DOWN
1 — so proudly
2 Dynamics precursor
3 20A, 45A, and 29D
4 — du Obale
5 Darts
6 Scourge
7 Suit to —
8 Tortoise
9 Untruthful
10 Type of cookie
11 Cabbage salad
12 Saddle part
14 Shrimplike shellfish
20 Passenger
21 Edge
23 Stripped instrument
25 Restored building, for short
26 Fill with joy
27 Martinique's mount
28 — about
29 Christie's sleuth
30 Thallophytes
31 One way
32 Feltie
35 Sci-fi film
37 Type style: abbr.
39 Disfigure
40 "wonderful one-hoss —"
49 — a man with
42 Weaver
43 Fragrance
45 Willow genus
46 Hook
47 Author Wesel
48 Prong
49 — a man with
50 French Sultan
52 Christie's sleuth
53 Cheat
56 Child

Russia's reform team to stay

MOSCOW (R) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin, who dashed home early from China in what he said was a bid to save his reform team, was said to have agreed Sunday with his new prime minister to keep key reformers in the next government.

Presidential spokesman Vyacheslav Kostikov told ITAR-TASS News Agency that Mr. Yeltsin and Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin had agreed a core of pro-market reformist ministers should be kept on.

"As far as the makeup of the cabinet is concerned the basic current team will be preserved," Mr. Kostikov said after several hours of talks also attended by First Deputy Prime Minister Vladimir Shumeiko.

"The government of the Russian Federation maintains loyalty to the idea of transition to market economy and intends to continue the reform course," Mr. Kostikov added.

There was no immediate word from Mr. Chernomyrdin's side.

Mr. Yeltsin cut short his official visit to China and returned home Saturday declaring a fight was underway over portfolios and "the master must restore order."

His implication was that his conservative opponents were trying to pack anti-market reformers into the new cabinet which he had told Mr. Chernomyrdin to have ready by Tuesday.

Mr. Yeltsin had made it clear that he wanted Mr. Chernomyrdin to keep key economic posts firmly in the hands of young pro-market reformers inherited from his radical predecessor, Yegor Gaidar, who was forced out on Dec. 14 by the conservative-dominated supreme legislature.

Mr. Kostikov's remarks suggested that the 61-year-old president — in sore need of a political victory after his recent defeat at the hands of the Congress of People's Deputies — had secured what he wanted in the talks.

Mr. Gaidar, 36, who was acting prime minister, had freed most prices, floated the rouble and launched a privatisation campaign until he was brought down by conservatives in a major defeat for Mr. Yeltsin.

Mr. Chernomyrdin, a 54-year-old ex-energy minister and former Soviet technocrat whom Mr. Yeltsin was forced to choose as a replacement for Mr. Gaidar, has

repeatedly declared he intends to pursue reform vigorously.

The extent of his commitment to reform remains in question because of his political past as a Soviet apparatchik and his political debt to conservatives who secured his election.

He has said in particular that he will not tolerate the "impoverishment" of the country. He has taken a more interventionist approach by seeking to continue subsidies for some state-owned industries.

He further qualified his commitment to reform when he said to TASS before his Sunday meeting with Mr. Yeltsin: "The market alone is not a panacea. Many countries have been living for long time under market conditions but have not resolved all their social problems."

Privatisation Minister Anatoly Chubais, Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Shokhin, Economics Minister Andrei Nechayev and Foreign Trade Minister Pyotr Aven made up the "inner core" of Mr. Gaidar's team and are the most enthusiastic proponents of fast-track reform.

Mr. Chubais told a meeting of the Democratic Russia Move-

ment Saturday that he planned to remain in the cabinet as long as the privatisation programme went ahead, but he would leave as soon as it is discontinued.

The programme, which aims to sell off tens of thousands of Russian firms and will get fully under way next month, is the next major stage of the Gaidar strategy which Mr. Chernomyrdin has inherited.

Despite the Kremlin leader's dramatic statement in China, the Russian capital was calm over the weekend. It was possible that Mr. Yeltsin, who thrives in an atmosphere of tension, was keen to be seen to be regaining the political initiative.

Andrei Kozyrev, the liberal foreign minister, added to the drama Sunday warning a rally of the Democratic Russia political movement of the danger of retreating from reform.

"An unfortunate possibility exists that we shall see for ourselves once more a retreat from market laws and a return to the slogans of the (old Soviet) type, bringing further hardships for our people. Let us hope, and work, to avoid it," he said.

Khmer Rouge frees 11 kidnapped U.N. troops

PHNOM PENH (R) — Khmer Rouge guerrillas Sunday unconditionally released 11 United Nations peacekeepers they had kidnapped and threatened with execution, a U.N. spokesman said.

The confrontation was the most serious yet between U.N. personnel and the guerrillas, who are refusing to implement a peace agreement for Cambodia signed last year.

The 11 U.N. personnel — a Uruguayan officer, seven Uruguayan soldiers, an interpreter, a Russian helicopter pilot and a Russian military observer — were in good health and unharmed after their two-day ordeal, said Eric Falt, spokesman for the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

He said he was unsure of the nationality of the interpreter. He said earlier he was Uruguayan.

The release followed more than four hours of negotiations at the hostage site in Kratie province in eastern Cambodia between the top-ranking Khmer Rouge military representative in Phnom Penh, General Nuon Bunoo, and senior U.N. officials.

On Saturday, the local commander who took the men prisoner freed three other U.N. hostages to deliver a warning to UNTAC that the 11 would be killed and their helicopter destroyed if an attempt was made to rescue them by force.

Mr. Falt said the hostages and their helicopter arrived safely in the town of Kratie, a government-held provincial capital about 25 kilometres from the village of Stoen Thom where they had been held since Friday.

It was the fourth time this month that the Khmer Rouge had seized then released UNTAC peacekeepers but the first occasion on which the guerrillas had made a death threat.

Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan issued a statement earlier Sunday accusing UNTAC of provoking the confrontations by entering Khmer Rouge zones without permission.

He said this was part of a plot to discredit his group and mislead the U.N. Security Council into imposing sanctions against it.

UNTAC has acknowledged the peacekeepers' helicopter landed at Stoen Thom without warning.

Yugoslavs vote in crucial elections; Panic optimistic

BELGRADE (AP) — Yugoslavs voted Sunday to choose a new Serbian president and federal Premier Milan Panic said he was optimistic he would unseat Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic.

Mr. Milosevic is widely blamed as the instigator of the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina and the balloting is perceived as a choice between a peaceful settlement or expanded warfare in the Balkans.

Mr. Panic, a Serbian-American businessman, has sought to end the Bosnian war and Yugoslavia's international isolation since he became federal premier in July.

"This is the beginning of democracy in Yugoslavia," Mr. Panic said after casting his ballot in the post-Bedjine district of Belgrade, where Mr. Milosevic had voted an hour earlier.

Asked if he was optimistic of his chances for winning, Mr. Panic said: "I'm a realist — people want changes and I will bring it to them."

Surveys give each candidate about 40 per cent support. If neither wins 50 per cent of the ballots, they compete in a runoff.

Jan. 3.

Yugoslavia's 7.4 million voters also vote for federal, Serbian and Montenegrin parliaments and local councils in Serbia and Montenegro, the only republics remaining in Yugoslavia.

Polls opened at 7 a.m. (0600 GMT). In frigid Belgrade, grey skies and fog dampened the mood, but many polling stations were crowded.

There were no immediate reports of irregularities. The state-run Tanjug News Agency reported that a polling station on the outskirts of Belgrade was broken into overnight, but there were no voting materials present.

More than 90 observers from 20 countries, international bodies and non-governmental organisations have fanned out across the country to monitor voting amid widespread concern of possible fraud.

In Sarajevo, the Bosnian capital, people were skeptical that the election would affect the course of the war. Many were unaware that the voting in Serbia was even taking place because electrical power was out.

Fresh anti-white violence hits S. Africa

CAPE TOWN (R) — A 14-year-old white schoolgirl was killed in a handgrenade attack in South Africa and five other people were wounded by automatic rifle fire in escalating black violence against whites, police said Sunday.

Police and soldiers closed frontiers with the nominally independent black homeland of Transkei and Foreign Minister P. W. Botha appealed to the government of Lesotho for help in tracking down some of the attackers.

A police spokeswoman said Leonie Pretorius, 14, died about three hours after she was wounded in the side in a midnight attack on a farm near Ficksburg, close to the South African border with Lesotho.

The attackers threw a handgrenade into the house where she was watching television with her brother and a friend and fired several shots into the room.

Police said the attackers appeared to have fled into Lesotho, a mountainous kingdom entirely encircled by South Africa and its Transkei tribal homeland.

Earlier Saturday five whites were wounded in a pickup truck on the road between Dordrecht and Queenstown in the Eastern Cape province.

Police spokesman Christo Coetzee said 78-year-old woman was among those hurt when a rifle fire over the truck which was carrying a family home from a Christmas shopping expedition to Queenstown.

A motorist in a following car was wounded when he returned fire, Mr. Coetzee said.

Law and Order Minister Herens Kriel said through a spokesman that South Africa would close the road through Transkei that links the white towns of Dordrecht and Queenstown "until the situation is stabilised."



F.W. De Klerk

He urged whites not to enter the tribal territory, where military ruler Bantu Holomisa has refused to allow South African investigators to check reports that the radical Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) has established bases for its military wing, the Azanian People's Liberation Army (APLA).

APLA has claimed responsibility for two recent attacks on whites in Queenstown and in nearby King William's Town. Five whites died and 38 were wounded in the attacks on a wine-tasting guild meeting and a restaurant.

Mr. Kriel did not blame APLA for the latest attacks, but a police source said "the APLA attacks could have helped to create an atmosphere of open-season on all whites."

Meanwhile, Sunday newspapers speculated on the identities of six generals dismissed for political dirty tricks, and political leaders



Tower of Pisa crucial funding

PISA (R) — The project to save the Tower of Pisa was resolutely approved after months of delay, but the project was forced to abandon their work on the 1,000-year-old monument after the region's regional council threatened to quit unless the government provided more money for the project.

Months have passed and parliament has passed the law, but the region's regional council threatened to quit unless the government provided more money for the project.

Mr. De Klerk said he would provide the names of the disciplined members once all had been notified, and indicated their criminal activities and unauthorised political operations may have included killings.

The disclosures, based on information from an internal investigation by Lt. Gen. Pierre Steyn, confirmed, longstanding suspicions by black opposition groups that some military leaders worked secretly against reforms to end apartheid.

Mr. De Klerk appointed Gen. Steyn to investigate after the Goldstone Commission, a judicial panel investigating political violence, last month disclosed a covert military plot to discredit the African National Congress (ANC), the leading black group.

Two newspapers, the Sunday Star and Rapport, reported the head of the military intelligence unit in charge of the plot, Brig. Gen. Tollejre Botha, was one of the dismissed officers.

The newspapers said others believed to have been dismissed included Maj.-Gen. Hennie Roux, the army chief of staff; Maj.-Gen. Chris Thirion, deputy chief of staff of intelligence; and Brig.-Gen. Ferdie Van Wyk, director of army communications operations. All are part of the army, considered the least progressive of South Africa's military forces.

Queen, Diana public show of

LONDON (R) — Queen Elizabeth II and Princess Diana appeared in public over a week after the death of Prince Charles, separating from the eldest son Prince Charles, who arrived together in a village church in Scotland to attend the wedding of the queen's daughter, Princess Anne.

Both looked as they chatted happily in the churchyard. But they were not alone. The queen's daughter-in-law, Princess Diana, was also present. The queen and Princess Diana were made to part Prime Minister John Major's month, ending newspaper speculation royal marriages had been a failure.

Mr. Major said that the queen would not "allow Charles' accession and that Princess Diana still become queen's daughter-in-law. It is a question of the feasibility of such a union. Princess Diana to continue the life of attending public duties supporting charities and caring for the poor."

Philip, in November, an unprecedented report had had bitter disagreements with her parents-in-law. But Diana did not attend the second wedding of her law Princess Anne in last weekend.

Taiwan ruling party secretary quits

TAIPEI (R) — The secretary-general of Taiwan's ruling Nationalist Party tendered his resignation Sunday after the party suffered its worst election setback in four decades, the Central News Agency (CNA) said.

James Soong submitted his resignation to President Lee Teng-Hui, who is also party chairman, to accept responsibility for the Nationalists' poor performance in Saturday's parliamentary polls, CNA reported.

"The results of the elections were not ideal," Mr. Soong, 50, was quoted as saying. CNA, which is run by the party, did not say if Mr. Lee would accept the resignation.

Mr. Soong's offer underlined worsening conflict within the ruling party after public anger at

corruption and "money politics" caused its share of the popular vote to plunge.

The party kept its majority in parliament but its share of the vote plunged to 53 per cent, its lowest level ever, in the first full elections to the legislature since the Nationalists lost the Chinese civil war and fled to Taiwan in 1949.

The Nationalists ended up with about 103 seats in the new 161-seat legislature — 96 were won by candidates formally nominated by the party, and up to seven were won by Nationalist members running as independents.

The main opposition Democratic Progressive Party made strong gains, almost tripling its number of parliamentary seats to 50 from the previous 18.

A powerful faction in the

Nationalist Party Sunday demanded internal party reforms as well as Mr. Soong's resignation.

"The ruling party now faces its worst political crisis since coming to Taiwan. At this point we must face reality and stop cheating ourselves," said faction leader Jaw Shau-Kong, who was elected to parliament Saturday.

"Unless the ruling party listens more to the voice of the people and regains the people's confidence... the ruling party may become the opposition party after presidential elections," he said in a statement. Presidential polls are due in 1996.

Winners in the legislative elections celebrated Sunday by leading gong-beating parades of supporters, setting off firecrackers and staging traditional Chinese lion dances.

Singapore's Goh buoyed by election win

SINGAPORE (R) — Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong easily won a by-election and said he would use the results to reinvigorate his government.

"You have given me your resounding endorsement for the policies of my government and leadership," Mr. Goh told supporters after the result. "I pledge on behalf of my colleagues and myself to safeguard the future of Singapore."

Mr. Goh's four-member team from the ruling People's Action Party (PAP) won 73 per cent of the vote in the by-election in his home constituency of Marine Parade.

The Singapore Democratic Party (SDP), which had hoped to get 30 to 40 per cent, took 24.5 per cent and two smaller opposition parties split the remainder.

SDP officials told a press briefing that they were disappointed but still satisfied.

"The result tonight shows the people of Singapore want a strong and credible opposition," said SDP candidate Ashleigh Seow. "Tonight is the beginning of a stable two-party system."

The PAP, which has held power since 1959, controls 77 of the 81 seats in parliament. Mr. Goh polled 77.2 per cent of the vote in the constituency in general elections in August 1991 against weaker opposition.

Many analysts had thought Mr. Goh would get 65 to 70 per cent of the vote in the by-election, given the stronger opposition, and Mr. Goh said Friday that 70 per cent would satisfy him.

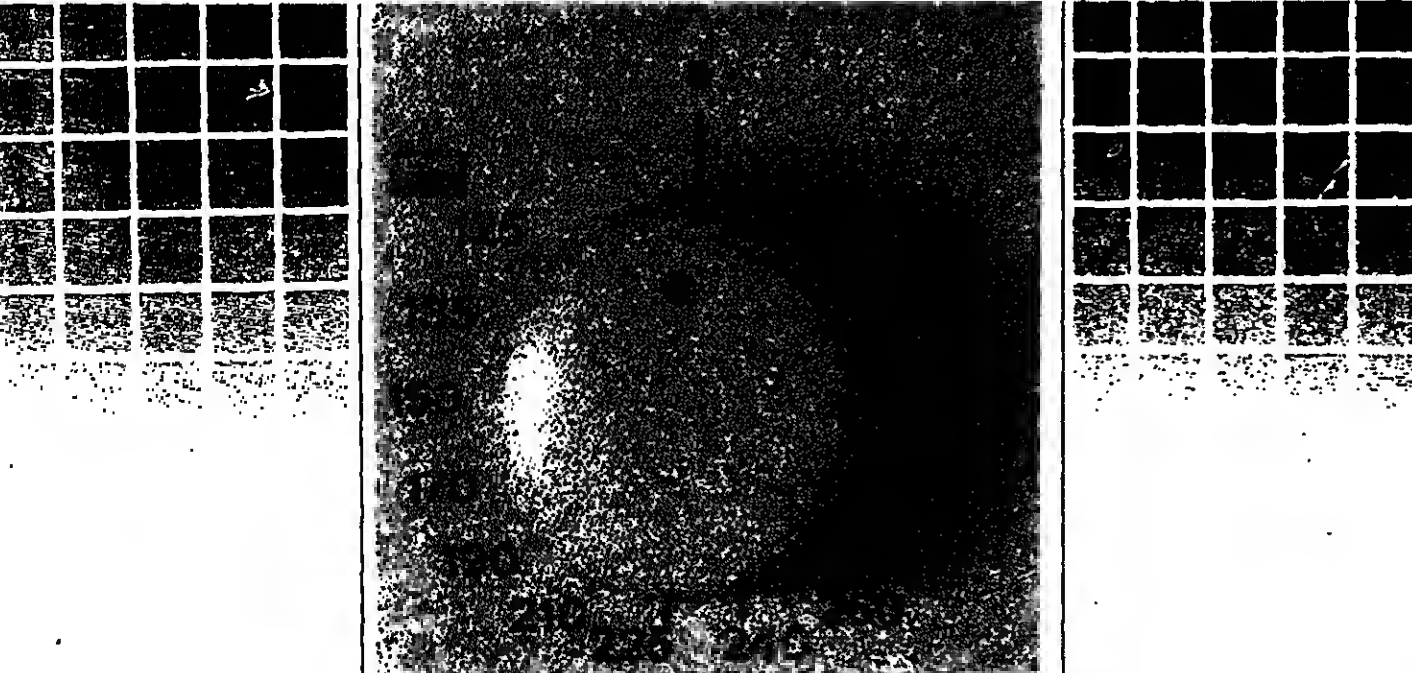
Beaming, he told reporters Saturday night: "When I land a solid punch, I know it."

Mr. Goh called the by-election, the first since 1981 and the first to involve a prime minister, to fulfill a campaign promise made last year and to bring a new PAP face, Teo Chee Hean, into the government.

Marriage not to happiness Japanese women

TOKYO (R) — Less than 15 Japanese women believe happiness lies in "a government" according to a government survey. The white paper of said only 13.8 per cent of women polled in 1990 thought meant happiness for a woman was to get down from 28 per cent.

Marriage has been regarded as an important factor in achieving happiness. In 1972 close to 80 per cent of women regarded as important in achieving happiness.



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The European Standards for the manufacturing of gas cookers strictly ensure the following precaution.

The existence and use of two separate control knobs for baking and broiling is strictly forbidden when both functions exist within one confined compartment. If baking and broiling take place within one compartment there should only be one control knob allowing you to either bake or broil at one given time and therefore preventing the misuse of both functions simultaneously.

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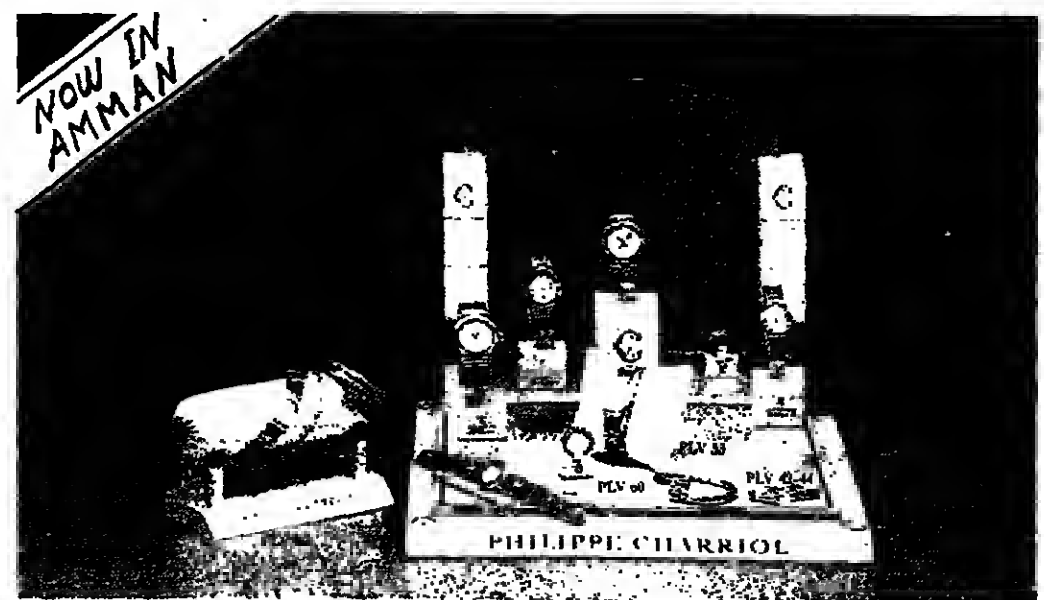
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